START YOUR KIMBERLEY ADVENTURE WITH US!

visitkununurra.com

KUNUNURRA & EAST KIMBERLEY

2023 VISITOR GUIDE

KUNUNURRA VISITOR CENTRE

START YOUR KIMBERLEY ADVENTURE WITH US!

visitkununurra.com

The Kununurra Visitor Centre is the best place to familiarise yourself with all there is to see and do in the East Kimberley.

Whether you are after a bed, boab, billabong, boat, barra or just want to see the Bungles we can organise it all for you and make certain you have an adventure here in our backyard.

Kununurra is a unique place, surrounded by beautiful boab trees of all shapes and sizes or if its birds you are after we can help there too. Marlgu Billabong is a short drive from Kununurra on the way to Wyndham. Its a great place to bird watch and a pretty nice place to view the sunset.

The Purnululu National Park or Bungles is a must see when planning a trip here. You can take a day tour or spend the night, flying over the magnificent Ord River Irrigation Area or there is the option of driving in yourself and taking your time.

We also have some awesome Aboriginal Cultural Experiences on Country too. Our local custodians are very pleased to share their experiences and land with our visitors so if you want to visit some pretty unique locations - we are the place to start.

Please consider us when you are ready to make your booking. As a not-fot-profit self funded visitor centre, we rely on you to help keep our visitor centre doors open for the next time you visit!

Kununurra, the word literally means big water and there are plenty of places to get out on a boat, cruising on the Ord, watching the sunset on Lake Kununurra or spending a relaxing day on Lake Argyle, there are so many options to choose from!

Take a look at our website **visitkununurra.com** for some great ideas, get in touch or book your accommodation and experiences.
If it's inspiration you're after, our Instagram and Facebook pages are sure to impress **@VisitKununurra** and be sure to share your adventures with us, while you're here #VisitKununurra.

See you soon, in the Kimberley!

Coolibah Drive, Kununurra 6743
08 9168 1177 | info@visitkununurra.com
VisitKununurra | visitkununurra

KUNUNURRA VISITOR CENTRE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Average Temperatures for the East Kimberley

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
MAX (°C)	36	35	36	35	33	31	31	33	36	39	39	38
MIN (°C)	27	27	25	22	18	17	17	22	29	24	25	26
RAIN (mm)	196	213	140	21	10	1.3	0.1	2.8	3.9	26	71	105

Useful Contacts

Ambulance/Fire/Police	000
DBCA Parks & Wildlife service	08 9168 4200
Dept. WA Fisheries	08 9193 8600
Dentist	08 9168 1529
Hospital – Kununurra	08 9166 4222
Hospital – Wyndham	08 9161 0222
Hospital – Halls Creek	08 9168 9222
Wunan Health and Well-being	08 9168 1001
Police – HCQ	08 9168 9777
Police – Kununurra 24hr	08 9166 4530
Police – Wyndham	08 9161 1055
Australia Post	13 76 78
RAC Agent – Kununurra	08 9169 1463
RAC Agent – Wyndham	08 9161 1305
Shire Office – Kununurra	08 9168 4100
Shire Office – Wyndham	08 9161 1002
Shire Office – Halls Creek	08 9168 6007
Taxi Service – Australia wide	13 1008
Jims Taxi – Wyndham	0418 950 434
KAMN Taxi – Wyndham	0437 486 113
Kimberley Vet Clinic	08 9169 1229
Emergency WA Website	emergency.wa.gov.au

Volunteer Marine Rescue Services monitor these frequencies:

East Kimberley	VMR 699
Wyndham	VHF 16
The Bastion	VHF 80
Lacrosse Island	VHF 81

Local Radio Stations

FM	Tourist Info Radio	**87.6**
	Vision	**88.0**
	Triple J	**100.0**
	NW Regional	**102.5**
	PKR Radio (Hcq)	**98.1**
	Radio National	**107.3**
	Wyndham District High School	**102.1**
	Spirit Remote	**102.5**
	NW Regional (Wyn)	**102.9**
AM	ABC	**819**
	Waringarri	**693**

Events

There are many exciting events happening in and around Kununurra throughout the year. For up to date event information, check out **visitkununurra.com/events**

Alcohol Restrictions

Takeaway alcohol restrictions are applicable in the East Kimberley. Takeaway alcohol may only be purchased on Monday-Saturday between 12pm and 6pm in Kununurra and Wyndham.

For more information, refer to the Takeaway alcohol management system factsheet on the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley's website: **www.swek.wa.gov.au/tams.aspx**

Distances

Kununurra to:	Km's
Black Rock Falls	30
Broome	1,044
Bungle Bungles Turnoff	253
Bungle Bungles Visitor Centre	302
Darwin	829
Derby (via Great Northern Highway)	910
Doon Doon Roadhouse	107
Duncan Rd turnoff	56
Fitzroy Crossing	649
Gibb River Road turnoff	52
Grotto	66
Halls Creek	358
Imintji Store	484
Ivanhoe Crossing	12
Kakadu National Park	742
Karratha	1,819
Katherine	510
Lake Argyle	70
Lake Argyle turnoff	35
Middle Spring	28
Molly Spring	32.5
Molly Spring turnoff	30
NT Border	42
Parry Creek Road (Kununurra end)	12
Parry Creek Road (Wyndham end)	85
Perth (via Coastal Highway)	3,333
Perth (via Great Northern Highway)	3,206
Timber Creek	253
Valentine Spring	18
Victoria River Roadhouse	343
Warmun	201
Wyndham	101

Kununurra to: (via Gibb River Road)	Km's
Bell Gorge Wilderness Lodge	483
Broome	880
Charnley River Station	497
Charnley River Station turnoff	454
Derby	705
Drysdale River Station	354
El Questro	101
El Questro turnoff	85
Ellenbrae Station	236
Emma Gorge Resort	77
Fairfields Leopold Downs Rd turnoff	587
Galvans Gorge	419
Gibb River Rd/Kalumburu Rd junction	295
Gibb River Road turnoff	52
Home Valley Station	118
Imintji Store	484
Kalumburu Aboriginal Community	562
Mitchell Plateau	542
Mitchell Plateau turnoff	457
Mornington Wilderness Camp	540
Mornington Wilderness Camp turnoff	458
Mt Barnett Roadhouse	405
Mt Elizabeth	396
Mt Elizabeth turnoff	366
Mt Hart Homestead	572
Mt Hart Homestead turnoff	522
Over the Range Tyre & Mechanical	439
Pentecost River	109
Silent Grove	521
Tunnel Creek	645
Windjana Gorge	608

CONTENTS

Welcome to the East Kimberley 4
- Suggested Itineraries 6
- Travel Tips 10
- Ord River Irrigation Area (ORIA) 14

Kununurra & Wyndham 16
- Explore 18
- Eat 30
- Sleep 34
- Shops & Local Services 42

Indigenous Cultural Experience 48
- Art & Culture 51
- Art at the Heart 53
- Lake Kununurra & Lake Argyle 58
- Mitchell Falls 62
- The Bungle Bungle Range 63
- The Gibb River Road 66
- El Questro 68
- Unique Experiences 70

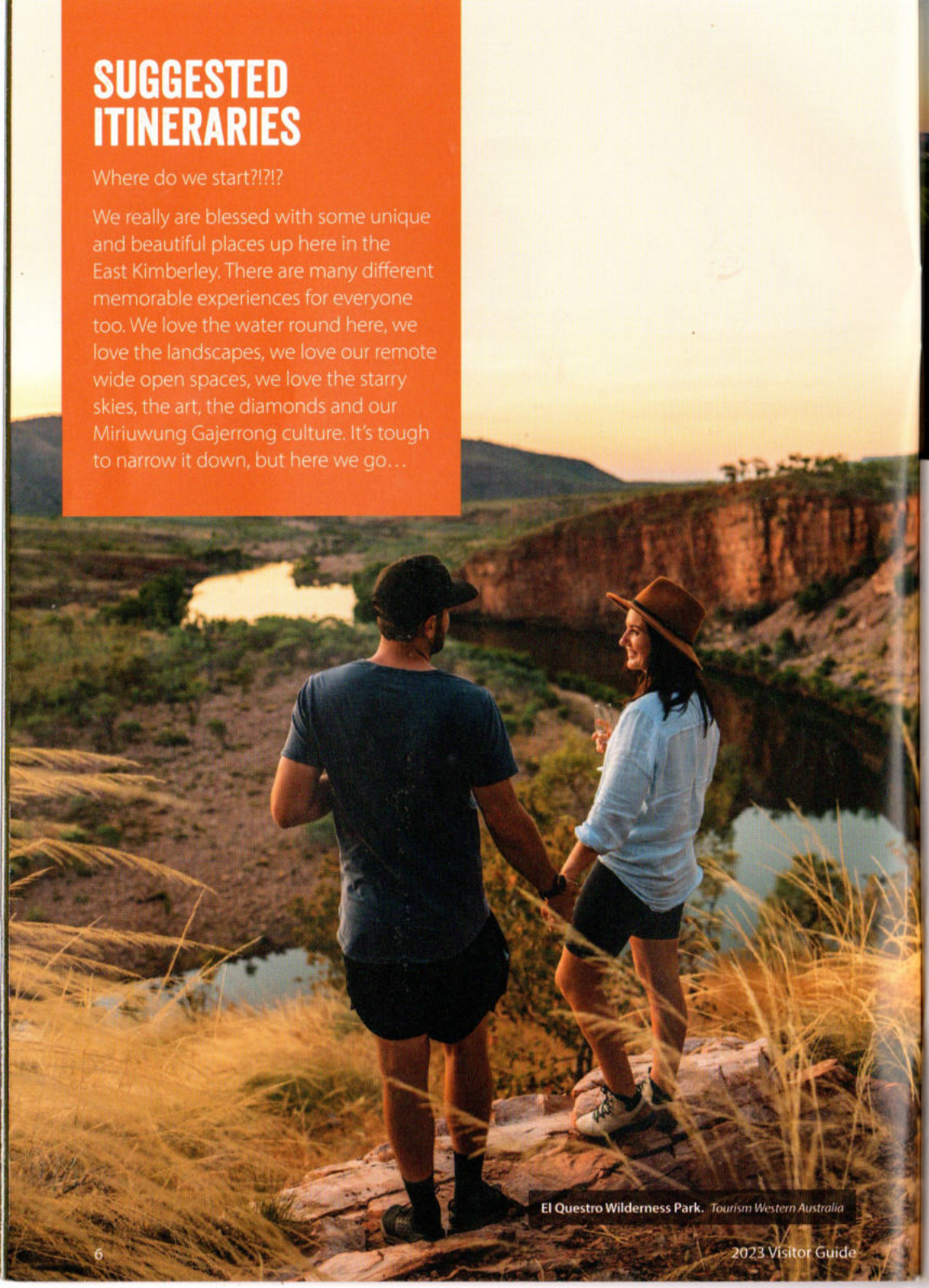
Regional Towns 73
- Surrounding Regions 73
- Fishing 75
- National Parks 76
- Wyndham Town Map 83
- Kununurra Town Map 84
- East Kimberley Map 86
- Argyle Homestead Museum 88

Ord River. *Tourism Western Australia*

SUGGESTED ITINERARIES

Where do we start?!?!?

We really are blessed with some unique and beautiful places up here in the East Kimberley. There are many different memorable experiences for everyone too. We love the water round here, we love the landscapes, we love our remote wide open spaces, we love the starry skies, the art, the diamonds and our Miriuwung Gajerrong culture. It's tough to narrow it down, but here we go…



El Questro Wilderness Park. *Tourism Western Australia*

Weaber Plain Road. *Tourism Western Australia*

3 DAY ITINERARY

Day 1

Your first place to go is the Kununurra Visitor Centre. This is where you can get maps of the local area, find out what there is to see and do around town and arrange all of your tour bookings!

Next get a feel for our town by spending the day visiting the local art galleries, or the diamonds shops for a luxury souvenir you will never forget. Then it is on to the Kununurra Historical Society Museum for those interested in the town's history with many artefacts and photos on display.

Walk in Mirima National Park also known as the mini–Bungle Bungles right on the edge of town. Boasting fascinating rock formations, the park is home to several small walking trails including a wheelchair friendly boardwalk.

Take a drive around the Ord River Irrigation Area by starting with a drive to Ivanhoe Crossing for some great photos and if you have a high clearance 4WD why not drive across!

Head back across Research Station Road to Weaber Plain Road, turn left and this road takes you through the main irrigation area, and past the beautiful Cave Spring Range which dominates the landscape on the eastern side of the road, especially impressive mid to late afternoon. Return to Kununurra along Weaber Plain Road. Finish the day with a sunset and spectacular views from Kelly's Knob Lookout.

Day 2

Join a combination cruise on both of the amazing East Kimberley waterways, Lake Argyle, and the Upper Ord River. Included is a visit to the Argyle Homestead Museum, and a leisurely cruise and swim on the immense expanse of Lake Argyle plus a thrilling cruise on the Upper Ord River. View the amazing scenery and wildlife, maybe even spot a freshwater crocodile or the elusive Kingfisher.

Day 3

No trip to the East Kimberley is complete without a visit to the World Heritage listed Purnululu National Park (the Bungle Bungles).

There are many air tours from Kununurra on offer including fixed wing, seaplane, and helicopter with one to suit everyone.

BOOK NOW WITH THE KUNUNURRA VISITOR CENTRE

visitkununurra.com | 08 9168 1177

Lake Arglye. *Tourism Western Australia*

Mitchell Falls. *Tourism Western Australia*

5 DAY ITINERARY

Day 4

Either self-drive or take an organised day tour to El Questro located about 100kms outside Kununurra along the iconic Gibb River Road enjoying views of the magnificent Cockburn Range along the way. Walk Emma Gorge, Zebedee Springs, and if time permits El Questro Gorge.

Day 5

Option 1: Just an hour's drive from Kununurra is the small port town of Wyndham. Take a day trip out to what is known geographically as the 'Top town of the West'. Wyndham has a diverse history of the cattle and mining industries, a small frontier town that typifies the true character of the Kimberley region. On this day trip visit places such as Diversion Dam Lookout, Molly Springs, the Grotto, Marlgu Billabong, Five Rivers Lookout, and the Wyndham Port. Take a drive out along the King River Road which follows the meandering King River to the Prison Boab Tree, and Aboriginal rock art site.

Option 2: Take a scenic air tour to the remote Mitchell Falls, a series of spectacular cascades in the Mitchell River National Park. The tour includes flying over part of the 'has to be seen to be believed' Kimberley coastline. There are a number of tour options available to suit all physical capabilities so you can walk up to the top of the falls or be transferred by helicopter.

THE MIRIWOONG NAME FOR A BOAB TREE IS **GERDEWOON**

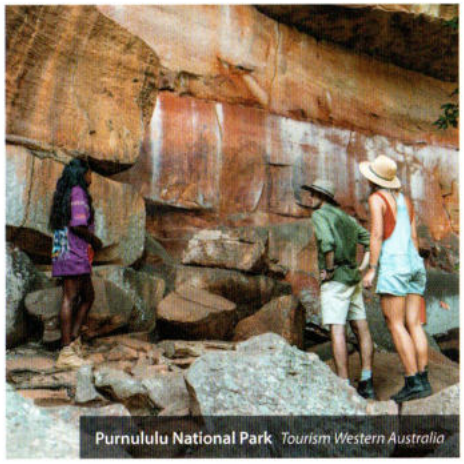
7 DAY ITINERARY

Day 6

Start the day with a very scenic self-drive to Lake Argyle or take an organized tour from Kununurra. Visit the Argyle Homestead Museum, have a swim in the infinity pool at Lake Argyle Resort or hire a BBQ Boat and take yourself on a leisurely cruise on Lake Argyle.

Day 7

Just an hour's drive from Kununurra is the small port town of Wyndham. Take a day trip out to what is known geographically as the 'Top town of the West'. Wyndham has a diverse history of the cattle and mining industries, a small frontier town that typifies the true character of the Kimberley region. On this day trip visit places such as Diversion Dam Lookout, Molly Springs, the Grotto, Marlgu Billabong, Five Rivers Lookout, and the Wyndham Port. Take a drive along the King River Road which follows the meandering King River to the Prison Boab Tree, and Aboriginal rock art site.



Purnululu National Park *Tourism Western Australia*

10 DAY ITINERARY

Day 8

Enjoy a scenic air tour to the remote Mitchell Falls, a series of spectacular cascades in the Mitchell River National Park. The tour includes flying over part of the 'has to be seen to be believed' Kimberley coastline. There are a number of tour options available to suit all physical capabilities so you can walk up to the top of the falls or be transferred by helicopter.

Day 9

If fishing for the elusive Barramundi is your thing join a fishing tour with the experts on the Lower Ord River. This is also a great way to see saltwater crocodiles and the many different birds that are in and around Kununurra!

Day 10

Join a Cultural tour. The Kununurra Visitor Centre will be able to advise you on the Cultural Tours on offer in and around Kununurra.

BOOK NOW WITH THE KUNUNURRA VISITOR CENTRE

visitkununurra.com | 08 9168 1177

TRAVEL TIPS

Cockburn Ranges, Gibb River Road. *Tourism Western Australia*

Travel Smart

You can never be too prepared, especially in the rugged East Kimberley. Protection from the sun lessens the possibility of sunburn and dehydration. It is advisable to wear the appropriate clothing, hat and sunscreen and always drink plenty of water. Mosquitoes can carry Ross River virus and Encephalitis. Covering up and using an insect repellent will minimise the risk of these bites. When camping, use a fly screened tent or mosquito net.

Driving

The East Kimberley can be unforgiving, if unprepared. It is advised you take the relevant precautions to keep you and your loved ones safe whilst on the road. Be aware that from dusk until dawn, many animals (wallabies, kangaroos, cattle, horses etc.) are more active and can stray onto the roads from unfenced farms. 4WD vehicles are recommended on all unsealed/gravel roads. Always check with local authorities for the current road conditions before you depart. Take spare tyres, food and water. Road trains can be 50m long, please be cautious when looking to overtake them as it can take some time.

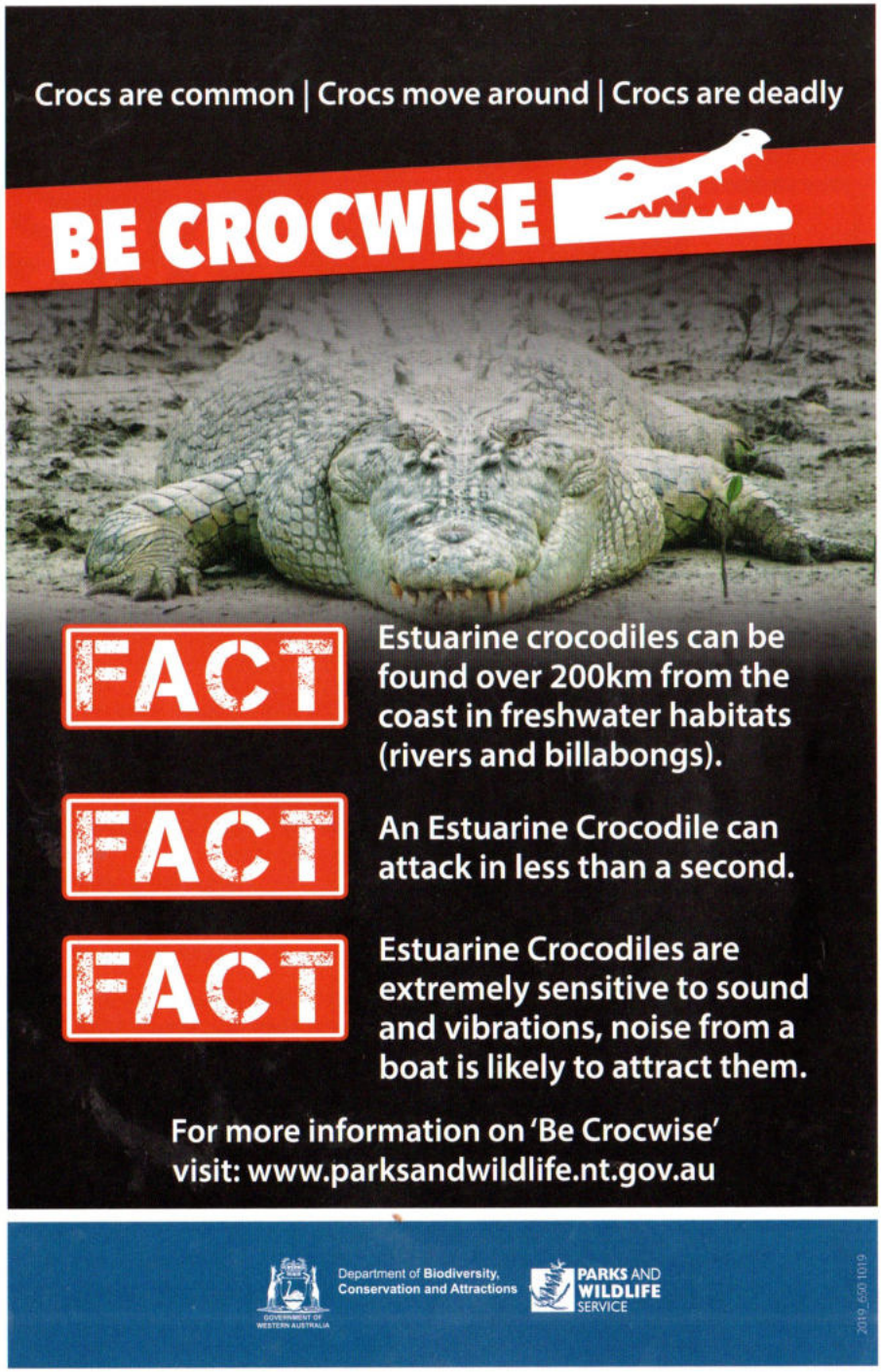
Bush walking

It is advisable to always notify someone if you intend to undertake some bushwalking into more remote areas. Inform them of your departure time, destination and expected return time. Always carry sufficient water in case of any emergency.

Snakes

All snakes are protected species and should be left alone. Most snake bites occur when people disturb or try to touch them.

THE MIRIWOONG WORD FOR A SNAKE IS **NGANJOOWARRNG**



Crocodiles

THE MIRIWOONG NAME FOR A SALTWATER CROCODILE IS **JOOWINYIN** AND A FRESHWATER CROCODILE IS A **DERRMAD**

There are two main species of crocodiles found in the East Kimberley; the estuarine or saltwater crocodile (known as 'salties') and the Johnson freshwater crocodile (known as 'freshies'). Salties are extremely territorial animals; they are considered to be the most dangerous and can grow up to seven metres in length. However, all crocodiles are potentially dangerous. Always observe warning signs and if in doubt don't swim, canoe or use small boats in estuaries, tidal rivers and deep pools.

Fires

Please ensure all fires are confined to appropriate fireplaces, are extinguished upon departure and always remember – BUSHFIRES KILL!

Flood and Cyclones

Cyclone season is generally between November and April. Please listen carefully to any cyclone alerts provided on radio or television stations to keep yourself and your loved ones safe. Alerts in the region can be found via www.bom.gov.au or www.fesa.wa.gov.au.

Cane Toads

When handling cane toads make sure you use gloves or a plastic bag. In Kununurra, you can drop cane toads off at the Kimberley Vet Centre and DBCA Parks & Wildlife service office.

Quarantine Aware

Western Australia is free from many of the insect or animal pests, plant and animal diseases and weeds which are present elsewhere in Australia, therefore there are strict quarantine laws on what can be brought into WA. If you are unsure then declare it, there are large penalties in place for those caught. For more information please visit www.agric.wa.gov.au

Travelling during the Wet Season

The months of November through to April are commonly known as the Wet Season in the North West, bringing with it tropical cyclones and flooding, which can cause widespread damage, injury and loss of life.

Before you set off:

- Familiarise yourself with Cyclone Warning and Alert systems
- Check road conditions and obey the road closure signs
- Prepare an emergency kit – including a battery operated AM/FM radio
- Know the local ABC radio channel for all areas you plan to travel
- Tell someone about your travel plans

While travelling during the wet season:

- Check weather conditions on www.bom.gov.au
- Listen to ABC radio and follow advice from authorities
- Do not drive into water of unknown depth
- Do not park or camp in dry riverbeds

Coronavirus

Please stay up to date with the local government restrictions when travelling into Western Australia from interstate.

For all the latest travel advice please go to the following websites:

Western Australia:
www.wa.gov.au/government/covid-19-coronavirus

ww2.health.wa.gov.au

COVID Info Hotline outside WA **1800 595 206**
COVID Info Hotline Within WA **132 68 43**

Northern Territory:
coronavirus.nt.gov.au

COVID Info Hotline NT 1800 490 484

National:
www.health.gov.au

COVID Federal Government Hotline 1800 020 080

TRAVEL TIPS

Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety**

Seven Golden Rules for Prospecting

SCAN ME

1. Put safety first
- Make sure you have enough water, fuel, maps and first aid supplies.
- Give serious consideration to taking some form of telecommunications and a global positioning system to fix locations, and a Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) – it may turn out to be your most important safety device.

2. Obtain a Miner's Right permit
when prospecting on vacant Crown land.

3. Obtain a 40E permit
prior to prospecting within an exploration tenement (if you don't have written permission from the tenement holder).

4. Get written permission
from the tenement holder when prospecting on:
- a mining lease;
- an exploration licence (if you don't have a 40E permit); or
- a prospecting licence.

5. Comply with all legal requirements
when prospecting on a pastoral lease. You cannot prospect within 100 metres of any occupied building or within 400 metres of any livestock watering point without the consent of the pastoralist.

6. Show respect when on Crown land
because it is used by other people or set aside for many purposes.

7. Fill any holes
that you dug and repair ground that has been disturbed.

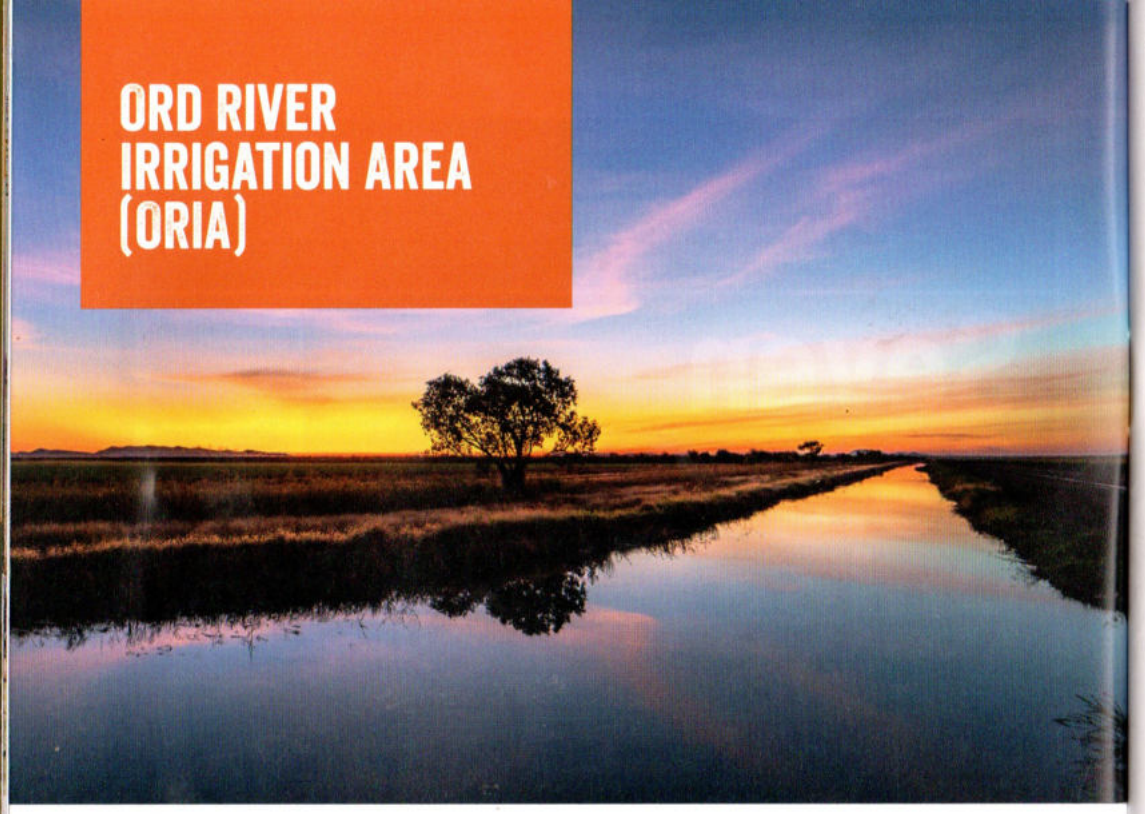
MAXIMUM PENALTY $150,000

DID YOU KNOW... that the maximum penalty for an individual prospecting illegally is $150,000?

- For more information about prospecting, please visit your nearest Mining Registrar's office to obtain a copy of *Prospecting in Western Australia* or download it from: **www.dmirs.wa.gov.au/prospectingwa**
- To find your nearest Mining Registrar's office, please visit: **www.dmirs.wa.gov.au/regionaloffices**

www.dmirs.wa.gov.au/prospectingwa

ORD RIVER IRRIGATION AREA (ORIA)



One of the most spectacular and important features of the East Kimberley is the Ord River Irrigation Area (ORIA).

Located in the East Kimberley region of Western Australia's far north ORIA was the product of a bold and imaginative plan to develop part of the nation's tropical north for intensive agriculture by harnessing the waters of the Ord River. The ORIA is the realisation of a dream held by Kimberley Durack, grandson of the famous Durack pioneers. He believed the rich soils of the river flats along the Ord would be ideal for an extensive irrigation scheme and was instrumental in establishing the first experimental plots in 1941. This led to the development of the Kimberley Research Station on Ivanhoe Plains in 1946.

The Kununurra area's unique agriculture and horticulture is unmatched by any other growing region in Australia. What sets it apart is an abundant supply of reasonably priced land and water and an excellent climate.

Since their discovery in the late 1870's by Alexander and John Forrest, the fertile alluvial plains of the lower reaches of the Ord River have lured pastoralists and farmers to the East Kimberley.

Around 25,000 hectares in size, the ORIA lies north and south of Kununurra with the dominant crops being melons, mangoes, pumpkins, sandalwood and seeds.

ORIA Calendar of Development

1879	Alexander Forrest, explorer, names Kimberley district and Ord River and makes a diary note related to the Ord area – "an extent of country equal to about 25 million acres has been opened up for pastoral and agricultural settlement".
1884	First cattle arrive on Ord River
1886	Durack Family arrive with cattle following epic droving trip from Queensland
1928	Frank Wise, agricultural advisor, visits area
1941	First experimental irrigation plots
1946	Kimberley Research Station developed
1962	First farmer settlers arrive
1963	Diversion Dam construction completed
1972	Lake Argyle Dam completed
1974	Dominant crop of cotton ceases production
1974-80	Diversification into sorghum, peanuts and rice
1985	Research Station renamed Frank Wise RS
1987	Trial plots of sandalwood established
1990-06	Dominant crops are sugar, mangoes, melons and pumpkins
1996	First commercial sandalwood crops established
2007	Sugar cane production ceases
2007	Dominant crop is sandalwood
2008	Hemp trial
2009-10	Cotton, rice and wheat trials. One of the largest producers of Chia in Australia
2001-12	Ord Stage 2 in full development
2013	Ord Stage 2 completed. Lease granted to Kimberley Agricultural Investments KAI
2014	First crop planted (Chia) by KAI on the new Goomig farm lands
2017	KAI acquires the Carlton Hill and Ivanhoe pastoral leases and freehold
2018	An extensive 3 year trial of late wet season cotton comes to an end

ORIA Facts

- Agricultural returns approximately $100 million per annum to the area
- The Ord River Irrigation Area is currently made up of the following farm districts:
  - Ivanhoe Valley - 15,000 ha (known as Ord Stage 1)
  - Goomig - 7,400ha (known locally as part of Ord Stage 2)
  - Packsaddle Plain - 3,000ha (mixed farming)

Today, ORIA successfully produces the following:

- Our most widely grown crop is Indian sandalwood. We also grow seeds and pulses, maize, chickpeas, borlotti beans, sorghum, hybrid bird seed and sunflowers.
- Rockmelon and watermelon.
- Citrus fruits such as lime and grapefruit.
- Mangoes, bananas, paw paw and other exotic tropical fruits. Harvested vegetables include squash, zucchini, pumpkin, corn and green beans.
- Trial crops such as cotton, rice, wheat, sugar cane and soybeans have also been planted at different stages.

KUNUNURRA & WYNDHAM

Visit kununurra

Wyndham. *Tourism Western Australia*

Kununurra

Kununurra is a relatively new town that was established in 1961 as a service centre for the Ord River Irrigation scheme after the success of the first stage and lots of investment. The name Kununurra comes from the Miriuwung word 'Goonoonoorrang', which translates to 'meeting of big waters'.

Initially, Kununurra sustained a population of 400 people. Today, Kununurra has a transient population that ranges from around 7,000 to more than 14,000 during the dry season. This number is set to increase as the area becomes more important with further investment into the Ord River Irrigation Area.

Agriculture is one of the biggest industries in Kununurra.

Tourism is, unsurprisingly, a major employer for the town and region, with visitors coming from around the world to see the wonders of 'Australia's last frontier'. Whether arriving by plane, car, coach or bike the Kimberley creates lifelong memories for all.

Wyndham

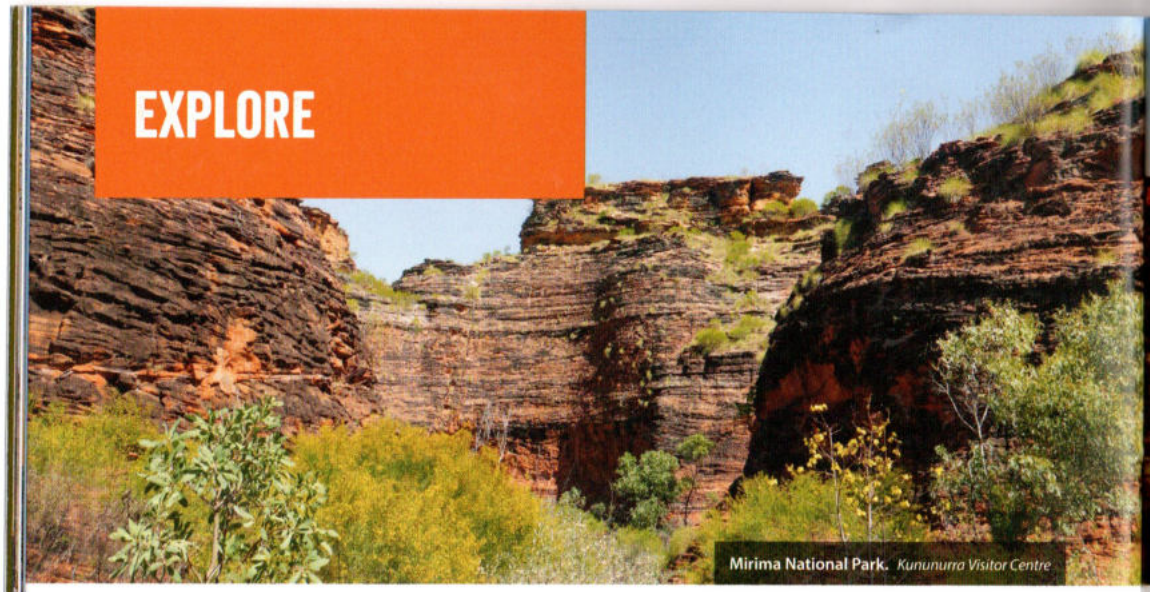
Wyndham was gazetted in 1886, to service the Halls Creek gold fields and the outlying cattle stations. Its northerly position in the state means it is known geographically and affectionately as the 'Top Town of the West'.

Wyndham Port was established in the 1880s and is still a busy departure point for ships carrying cattle, minerals and agricultural produce. Many tourist cruise ships also stop here during their trips along the stunning northern coastline of Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

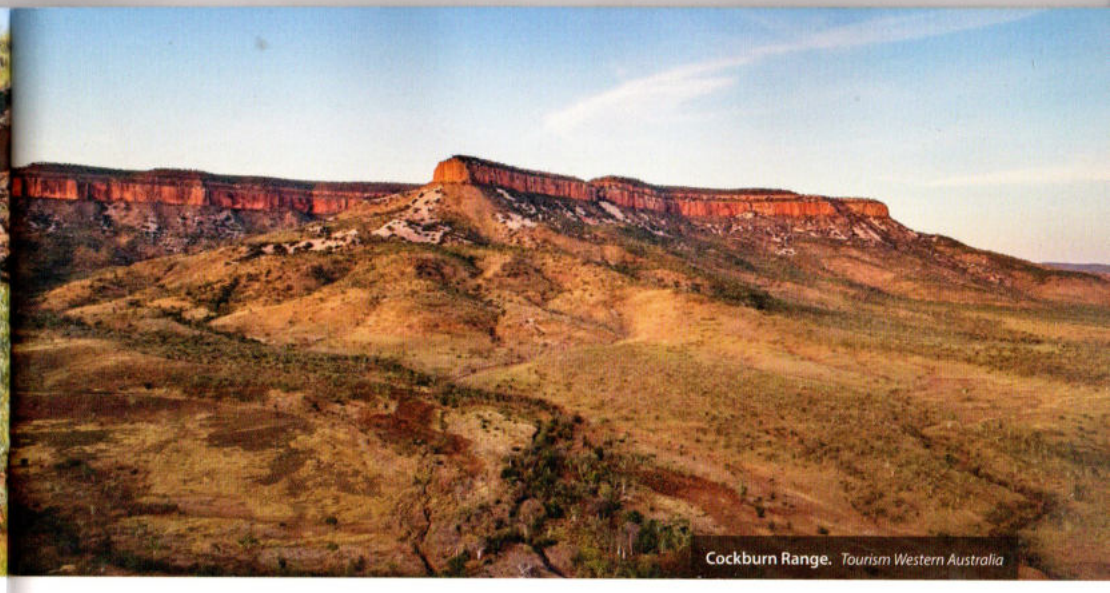
Wyndham's three cemeteries bear testimony to those early settlers of the 19th century, including Afghan cameleers and gold miners. The establishment of a meatworks in Wyndham in 1919 was a major employer for the region, until its closure in 1985. The rich Aboriginal history of the area, survival stories of explorers and the shock attack by 8 Japanese aircraft during World War 2 can all be learned about at the excellent Historical Society.

See page 21 for some of Wyndham's other highlights, including what many believe to be the 'best lookout in Australia'.

EXPLORE



Mirima National Park. *Kununurra Visitor Centre*



Cockburn Range. *Tourism Western Australia*

Wyndham and Kununurra are packed full of unique places to visit and things to do. Whether you're interested in the history of the region, our agricultural area, walking trails, wildlife, beautiful lookouts or a freshwater spring to relax in, there really is something for everyone! With so much to see and do in the Kununurra area, it's easy to see that a week is not long enough. If you stop into the Kununurra Visitor Centre you can grab a map outlining points of interest, and perhaps even a local secret or two…

KUNUNURRA

Kelly's Knob Lookout

Great place to catch an East Kimberley sunset, just a short drive from the centre, gives you scenic views over the town and valley.

THE MIRIWOONG NAME FOR KELLY'S KNOB IS **THEGOOWIYENG**

Picture Gardens (May-Nov only)

Have a night out at the best outdoor picture theatre in the west. Located on Coolibah Drive, it's a memorable way to go to the movies.

Kununurra Museum

Run by volunteers, the Historical Society is a must see for those interested in the region's Aboriginal and settler history, with many artefacts and photos on display.

Celebrity Tree Park/ Lily Creek Lagoon

Celebrity Tree Park was opened in 1984 and displays a variety of tree species planted by famous visitors to town. Wander around and spot such famous names as John Farnham, Kate Ceberano, HRH Princess Anne, Richard Clapton and Baz Luhrmann, just to name a few. Follow the boat ramp to reach picturesque Lily Creek Lagoon. For the avid wildlife watcher, the lagoon is home to freshwater crocodiles and a myriad of birdlife.

Swim Beach

Located on the banks of Lake Kununurra, Swim Beach is a popular spot for locals and visitors to enjoy a BBQ, take a walk and go for a swim. Dogs are also allowed.

Mirima National Park

Also known as Hidden Valley or the mini Bungle Bungles, Mirima boasts fascinating rock formations that have taken shape over the past 350 million years. The park is home to three small walking trails, and plenty of local flora and fauna.

Diversion Dam

The Dam was the first stage in the construction of the Ord Irrigation Scheme and was completed in 1963. The Diversion Dam comprises 20 radial gates that are raised or lowered to regulate the water level of Lake Kununurra, primarily to maintain water flow to the irrigation area and also to manage wet season flood levels. The dam crosses over the Victoria Highway. For the best view of the dam, pull into Lions Park Picnic Area. It's a great place to take a few photos, launch your boat or just have a picnic. Please be crocodile aware and definitely NO SWIMMING.

Elephant Rock/Sleeping Buddha

This large rock formation is located just out of Kununurra and is named after 2 unique rock features. From one angle, at Celebrity Tree Park, it appears as a Buddha in repose and from a southern angle, an elephant head is definable.

Ivanhoe Crossing

This concrete causeway was constructed as part of the original road from Wyndham to Katherine in the NT. Due to varying water levels, please check with Kununurra Visitor Centre or Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley on road closures. Fishing is a favourite pastime around the Crossing but please be crocodile aware and definitely NO SWIMMING.

TO WYNDHAM

VIA THE GREAT NORTHERN HIGHWAY

Ngamoowalem Conservation Park/ Molly Spring (4WD only)

Molly Spring can be accessed via the Victoria Highway, 30km west of Kununurra. The track is unsealed but can generally be accessed year-round by 4WD.

Cockburn Range

This impressive range is the most prominent landform viewed on the Gibb River Road between the Great Northern Highway and the Pentecost River. This extensive sandstone escarpment rises over 600m above the surrounding plains.

The Grotto

Located just 2km off the Great Northern Highway, this delightful swimming hole lies at the base of 140 steps. The Grotto forms a natural amphitheatre and is a spectacular waterfall during the wet season rains.

Marlgu Billabong. *Kununurra Visitor Centre*

Five Rivers Lookout, Bastion Ranges. @ *visitkununurra*

TO WYNDHAM

VIA PARRY CREEK ROAD (4WD ONLY)

This old road to Wyndham (approx. 100kms) takes you through some spectacular country, ranges and savannah lands. The back road to Wyndham, as locals know it, follows the Lower Ord River part of the way offering easy access into parts of the river for fishing and camping.

Valentine Spring, Middle Spring and Black Rock Falls (4WD only)

During early post wet season, these areas show off spectacular waterfalls and cool waterholes. Accessible via Parry Creek Road.

Mambi Island Boat ramp

Located along Parry Creek Road, Mambi Island Boat ramp provides access to the Lower Ord River. Saltwater crocodiles present in this area.

Old Halls Creek Road

Built about 1894 to provide access for those travelling from Wyndham to Halls Creek following the discovery of gold in 1885. The road features hand laid pavement stones that can still be seen today.

Parry Lagoons Nature Reserve

RAMSAR Nature reserve that includes Marlgu Billabong. Caution Saltwater Crocodiles are found in this area.

Telegraph Hill

Located off the Parry Creek Road, this vantage point provides wide vistas of the flood plains and distant ranges. Take time to explore the ruins of the old Telegraph Station built in 1914, which assisted shipping activities using the Wyndham Port during World War I. A shaded picnic area was installed in 2019.

Marlgu Billabong

A boardwalk and shaded bird hide have been constructed over a billabong within the Parry Lagoon Nature Reserve. A birdwatcher's paradise but be aware of Saltwater crocodiles in this area.

OFF THE GREAT NORTHERN HIGHWAY

King River Road (4WD only)

Commencing just south of Wyndham the King River Road ends at the Karunjie Track.

Moochalabra Dam (4WD only)

This dam was constructed in 1971 to provide the Wyndham area with a water supply. The spillway forms a spectacular waterfall during the wet season.

Aboriginal Rock Art Paintings (4WD only)

Located close to Moochalabra Dam, these rock paintings show Wandjina Spirit ancestors and animals, all painted in natural ochres.

Prison Tree (4WD only)

This great example of a Kimberley Boab is near the King River Road. It was used by the early police patrols as an overnight lockup.

WYNDHAM

Crocodile Statue

This 20-metre-long statue is the first introduction and welcome to visitors to the town. Its construction includes 5.5 kilometres of steel rods, 50kg of welding rods, 10 rolls of bird wire and 5 cubic metres of concrete.

Five Rivers Lookout/ Bastion Ranges

At 330 metres above sea level the Daharwi Range or Bastion Range provides a spectacular backdrop to Wyndham. Identify the five rivers that flow into the Cambridge Gulf (King, Ord, Durack, Forrest and Pentecost) or just take in the stunning views over the surrounding mudflats and ranges. A great place to catch a Kimberley sunset.

Three Mile Valley Walking Trail

Located at the base of the Bastion Range are the 2 walk trails of Three Mile Valley. One follows the Three Mile Valley Creek and the other heads past the Bastion Ranges for some spectacular views of the surrounding landscape.

Wyndham Port

Founded in 1885 the historic port area still plays an integral part in the pastoral, mining and tourism industries. Historic buildings still stand as testament to the early days of Wyndham Port including the Wyndham Museum. As the wharf is a working area, public access is denied onto the wharf and its surrounds.

Wyndham Community Recreational Fishing Jetty

Opened in 2012, the new jetty is a publicly accessible all-tides jetty that provides unrestricted access for locals, visitors and small craft wishing to engage in recreational fishing.

Wyndham Museum

Located in the old Courthouse building in the port area, it contains fascinating memorabilia, journal records and photographic displays of Wyndham throughout its colourful past.

Anthon's Landing

Site of the original wharf built in the 1880's. The wharf remains can still be seen at a low tide.

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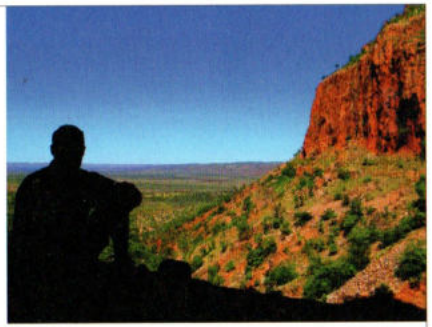

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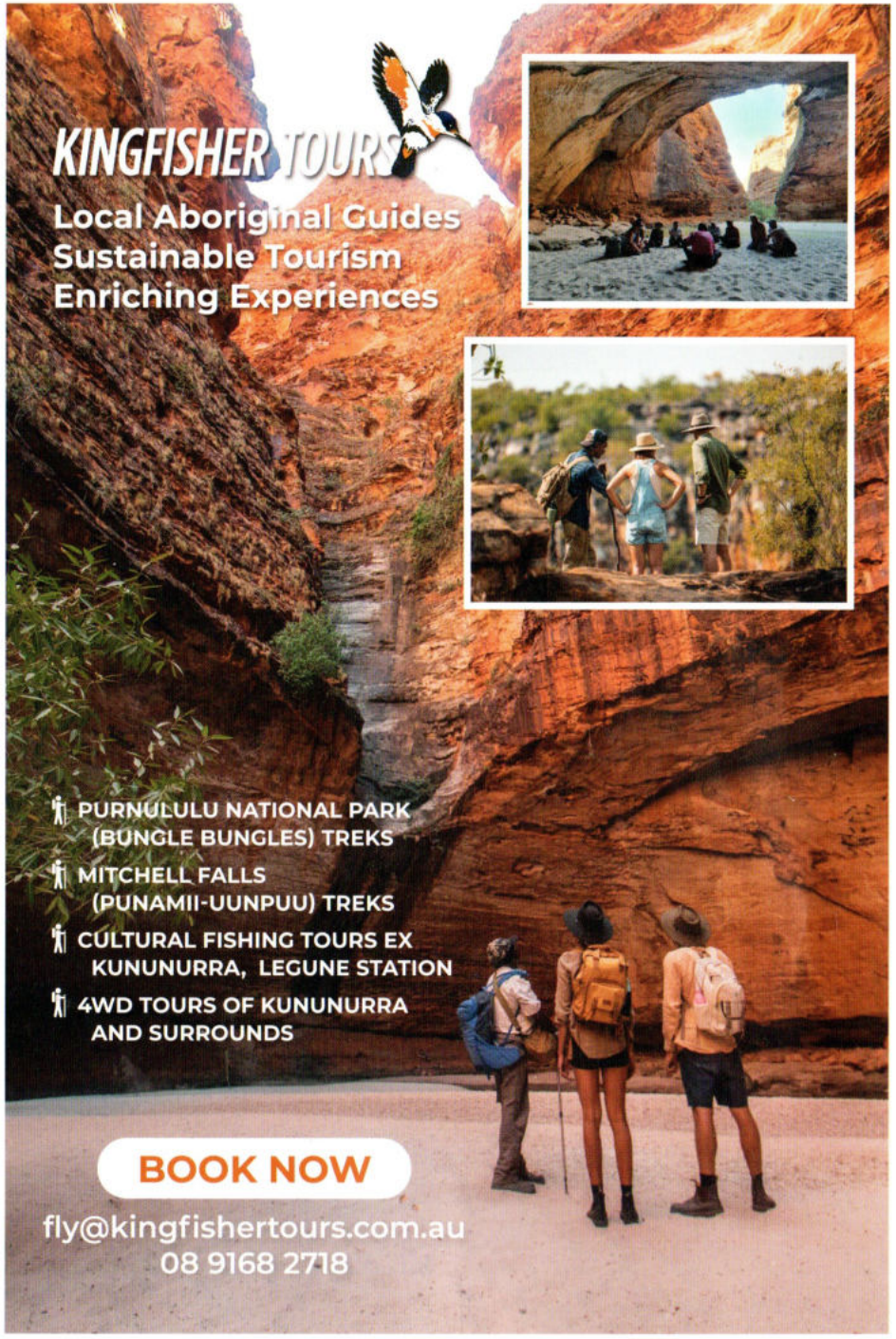

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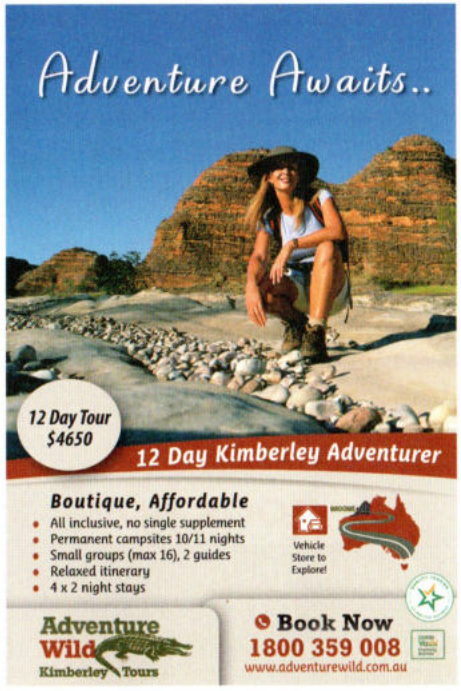

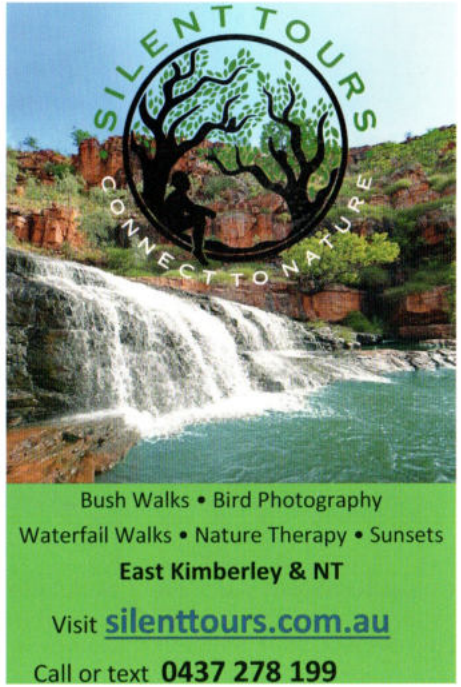

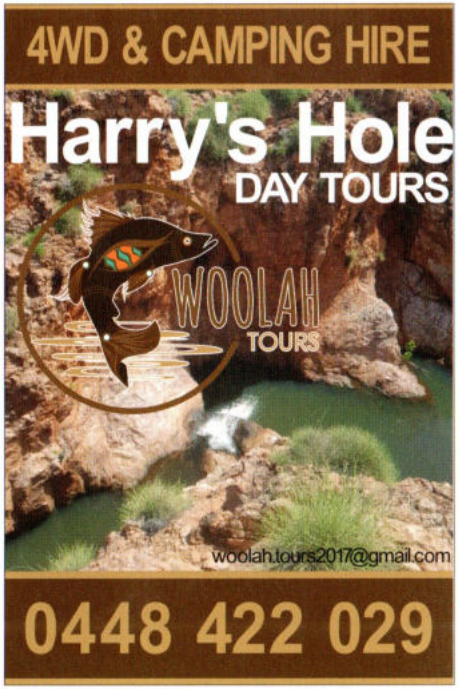

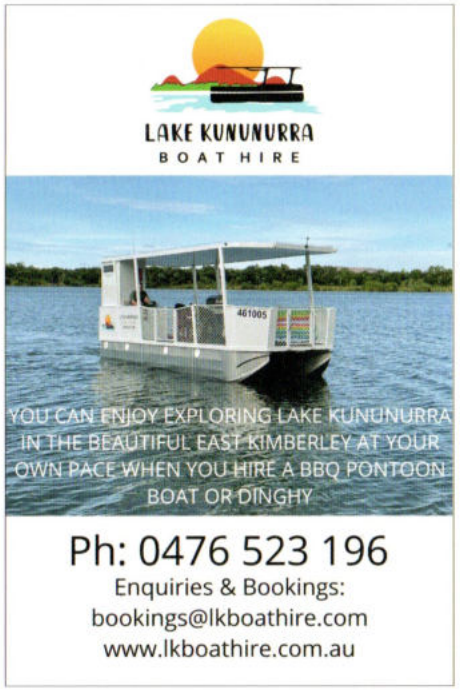

Upper Ord River. #visitkununurra

EAT

Dining out in the East Kimberley is a foodie's delight. Choose from a wide choice of dining experiences from exclusive resorts offering extensive menus and wine lists through to safari style camps that will sit you down 'alfresco' under a million-star night sky. Take your pick from our variety of fine eating-houses and counter meals, grab some take-away, or pack a picnic basket, sit on a rock and watch a spectacular East Kimberley sunset fade away right before your eyes.

The Hoochery Distillery Café, Kununurra. *Tourism Western Australia*

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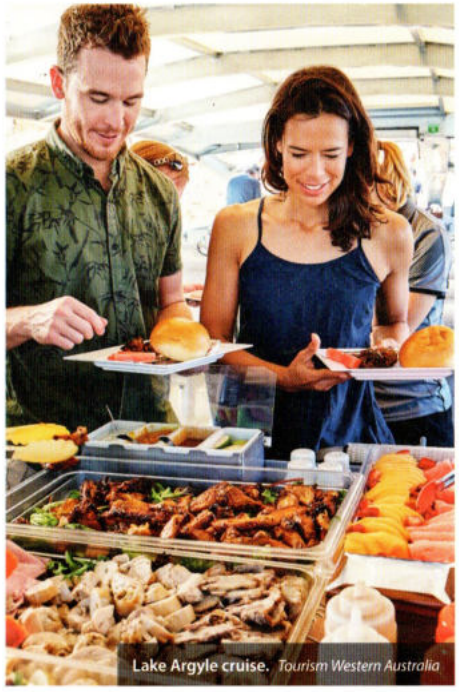

Lake Argyle cruise. *Tourism Western Australia*

The Hoochery Distillery Café, Kununurra. *Tourism Western Australia*

Kununurra

Cornerside Cafe
20 Messmate way | 08 9169 111

Gullivers Tavern
9 Cotton Tree Ave | 08 9168 1666

Hoochery Distillery (seasonal)
300 Weaber Plain Rd | 08 9168 2467

Hotel Kununurra
37 Messmate Way | 08 9168 0400

Ivanhoe Cafe (seasonal)
Ivanhoe Rd | 08 9168 1774

Kimberley Asian Cuisine
75 Coolibah Dr | 08 9169 3698

Kimberley Cafe
4 Papuana St | 08 9169 2574

Kununurra Country Club Resort
47 Coolibah Dr | 08 9168 1189

Kununurra Cruises BBQ Boat (seasonal)
1B Coolibah Dr | 08 9168 2882

Lily Lagoon Resort
50 Casuarina Way | 08 9169 1092

Spilled the Beans Cafe
1591 Victoria Hwy | 08 9168 1280

Sporties (Ord River Sports Club)
34 Chestnut Ave | 08 9168 1778

Subway
112 Coolibah Dr | 08 9168 1737

The Cambridge
47 Victoria Hwy | 08 9168 4000

The Kimberley Grande
20 Victoria Hwy | 1300 955 549

The Pumphouse
Lakeview Dr | 08 9169 3222

Tuckerbox Coffee Lounge
1 White Gum St | 08 9169 1270

Wild Mango Cafe
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Wyndham

Wyndham Oasis
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Parry Creek Farm Tourist Resort (seasonal)
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Croc Cafe & Bakery
12 Great Northern Hwy | 0457 826 616

Wyndham Community Club
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SLEEP

The East Kimberley offers a great range of accommodation to suit all types of visitors and at very different price points. Options span across the whole area from Kununurra at the heart, to the port town of Wyndham, the magnificent unique retreats on the coast of the Timor Sea and into the expanse of the outback including the Gibb River Road, Purnululu, Mitchell Plateau and last but not least, Lake Argyle.

El Questro Wilderness Park. *Tourism Western Australia*

Camping/Caravan Parks

The East Kimberley is a great place to experience camping out under the stars. The dry season days are cooler and allow for fantastic walks into some spectacular country, and the nights are just made for a good night's sleep out in the bush. Pack up the swag and get out into the vast Kimberley, it's just begging to be explored.

The following information is provided to advise travellers of a few good camping out tips on how to make your overnight stay in the bush more enjoyable, not only for you, but for the next visitor also:

- Respect private property and Aboriginal land – seek permission before entering or camping and leave gates as you found them.
- Remember, all land belongs to someone.
- Observe fire restrictions and take care with fire at all times. Campfires can only be lit in designated fireplaces and it is advisable to use fuel type stoves where possible. All fires should be fully extinguished prior to leaving the site.
- Avoid contaminating creeks and waterways with soaps and sunscreens.
- Admire and photograph plants and animals but leave them to themselves.
- Please dispose of your litter and rubbish – where there are not rubbish bins, take your rubbish with you.
- Show consideration for fellow campers, please bury all human waste and toilet paper deeply.
- Help prevent the spread of weeds by removing prickles and burrs from clothing, pets and camping gear and disposing of them appropriately.
- Please endeavour to make the least amount of impact on the area in which you camp. The cutting down of any trees is prohibited.

Hotels/Resorts

If you are travelling by car or plane or looking for a more luxurious stay, there are three and four star accommodation providers offering you a real 'home-away from-home' experience, and a chance to really spoil yourselves in the heart of the Kimberley.

For a better understanding of where the accommodation providers are, please refer to the map later in the guide. For a full list of accommodation providers please visit our website visitkununurra.com or come and see us when you get to town.

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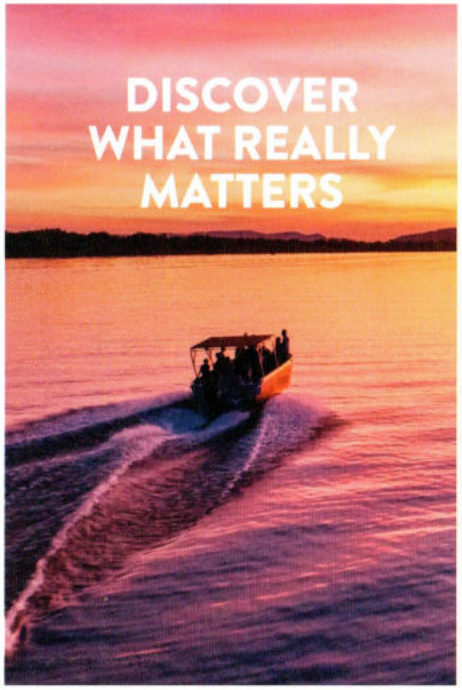

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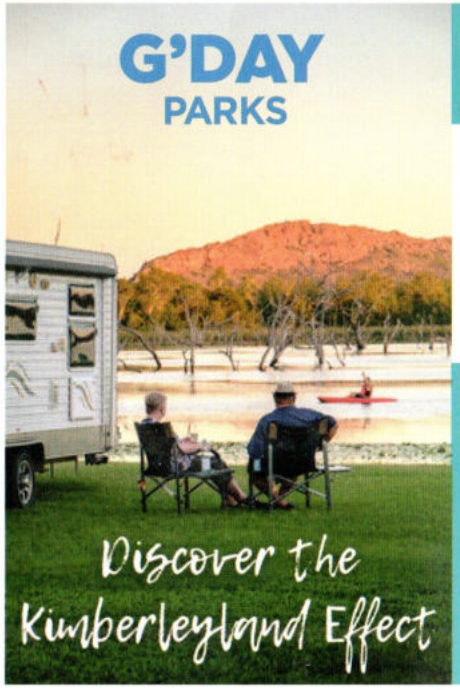

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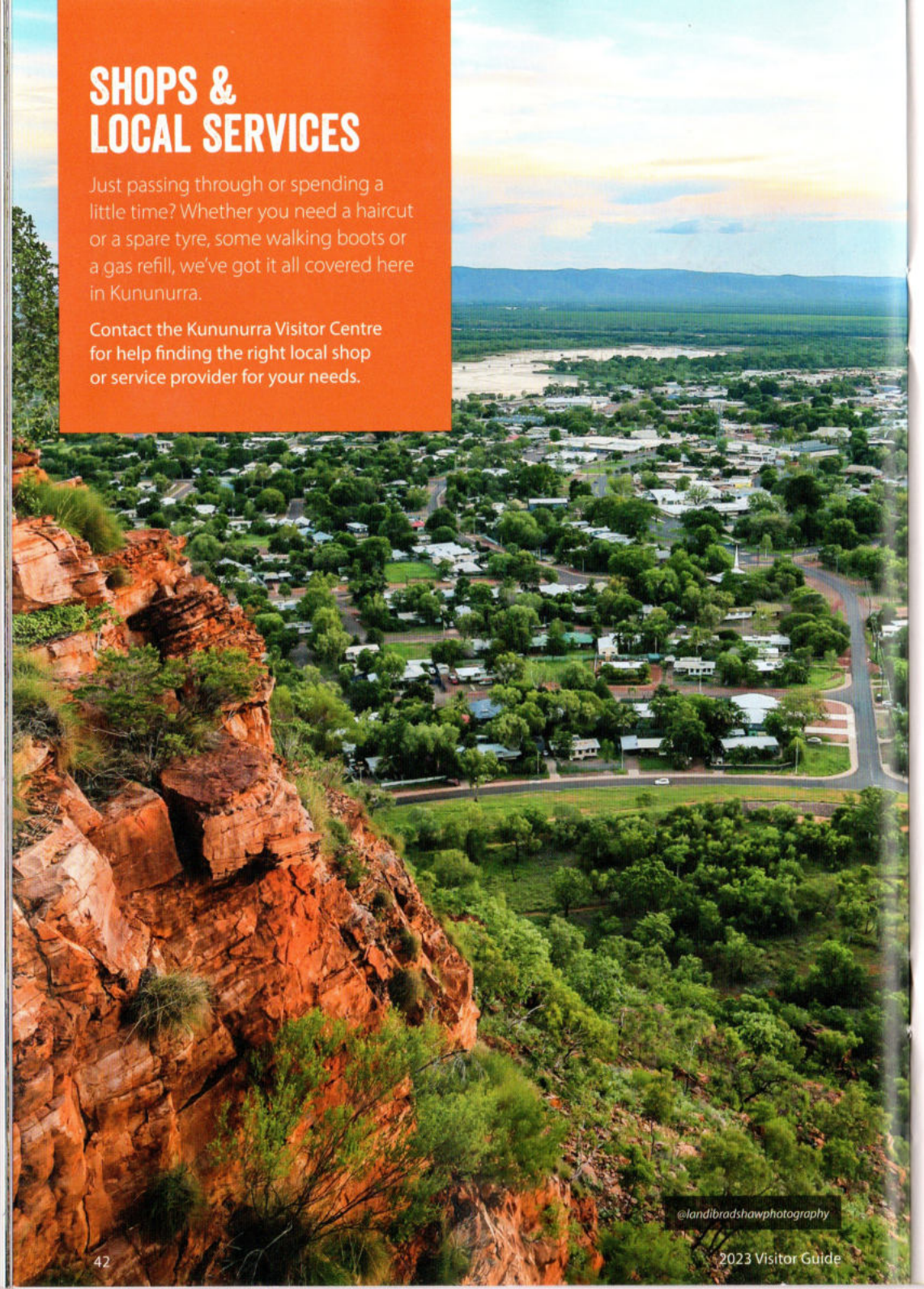

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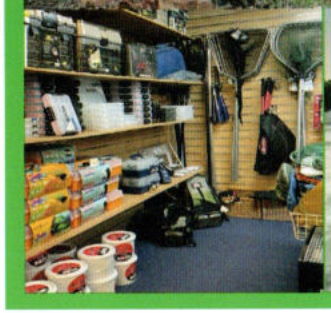

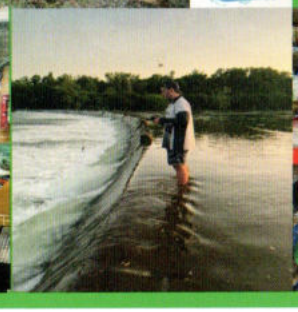

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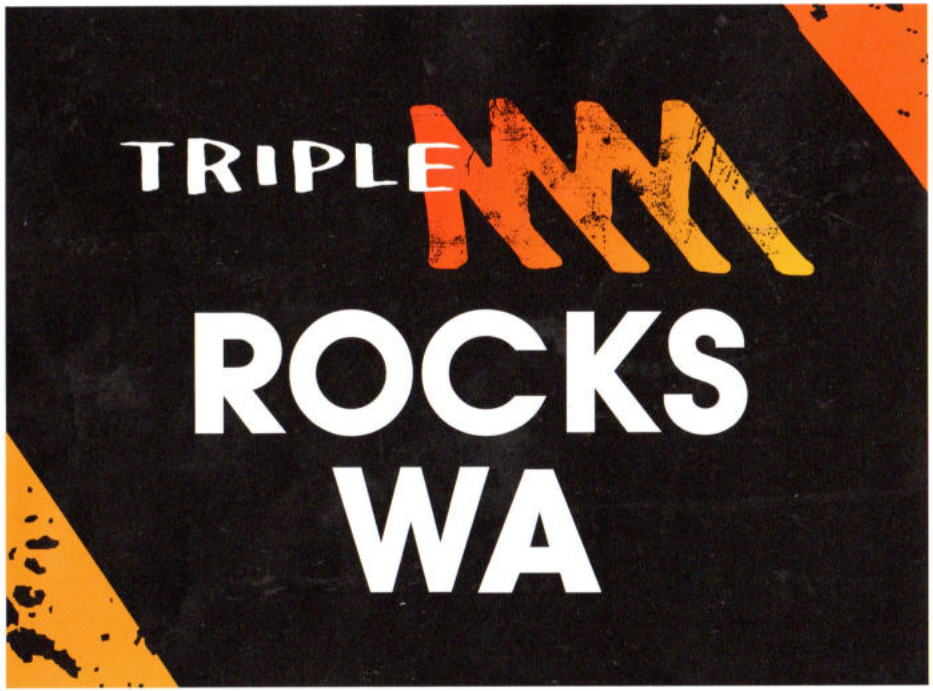

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It manages tourist radio 87.6 FM which reaches at 3km radius surrounding Kununurra, providing visitors to the area with information on safety, tourist attractions, local business and great local music.

Apart from radio broadcast, Waringarri Media shares live and recorded videos via its social media pages and its brand new website www.Waringarrimedia.org.au where you can also stream the station live.

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Ivanhoe Crossing. *Tourism Western Australia*

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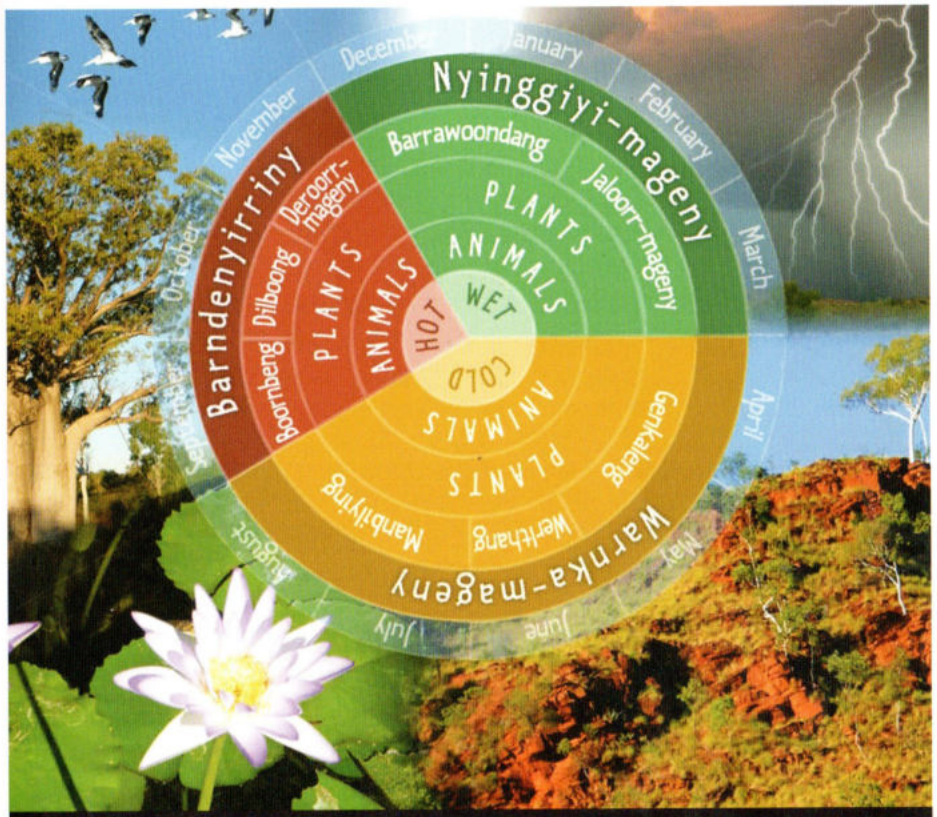
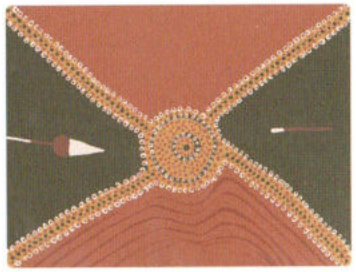
INDIGENOUS CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Cultural experiences are growing in the region, with tours regularly run by local Aboriginal guides. Miriuwung, Gajirrawoong and Gija are the main Aboriginal language groups in the area. The Mirima Dawang Woorlab-Gerring Language and Culture Centre organises cultural dances for annual festivals and the Ord Valley Muster regularly hosts the Mirima Dancers to share their culture with the local community. Contact Kununurra Visitor Centre to get an update on tours available throughout the region including tag-along tours.

The Bungle Bungle Range, Purnululu National Park. *Tourism Western Australia*





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Ngarranggarni Barramundi Dreaming Stories Jaliwang Ngarranggarni (Miriuwung)

A barramundi lives in the river at Tharram (Bandicoot Bar).

One day a crane fishing for food sees the barramundi and spears it with her beak, but is unable to catch it as the barramundi swims quickly away.

The barramundi travels up the Dunham River, past where the Worrworrum community is today, and on to Glen Hill where she scrapes off some of her scales as she passes through.

Today, these scales can be seen near the Glen Hill community's first gate as white rock on the hillside, most clearly visible in the late afternoon.

Here the barramundi is spotted by some women who try to catch her using nets made of rolled Spinifex grass (a traditional Miriuwung fishing method known as Gelganyem). But the barramundi flicks her tail and jumps over the trap. She escapes between the two hills of Barramundi Gap (Argyle Diamond Mine) and heads down to Bow River, where she comes to rest as a white rock. This rock, which can still be seen today, is quite different from all the others at Bow River.

- Story by Evelyn Hall - Artwork by Jodie Hall - Story provided by Ted Hall -

Waringarri Aboriginal Arts Centre, Kununurra. *Tourism Western Australia*

ART & CULTURE

Kimberley Aboriginal People

"Aboriginal people are connected to the land through our culture, law and dreaming. We have a responsibility to look after our land, just as it looks after us. Our country connects our people to the past, present and future" – Kevin George – Bardi Jawi Cultural Ranger.

Kimberley Aboriginal people are part of the oldest continuous culture in the world, dating back more than 50,000 years.

The cultural values and traditions of Kimberley Aboriginal people are vibrant and strong. They are embedded in the land through stories about the creation of country often referred to by non-Aboriginal people as the 'Dreaming'.

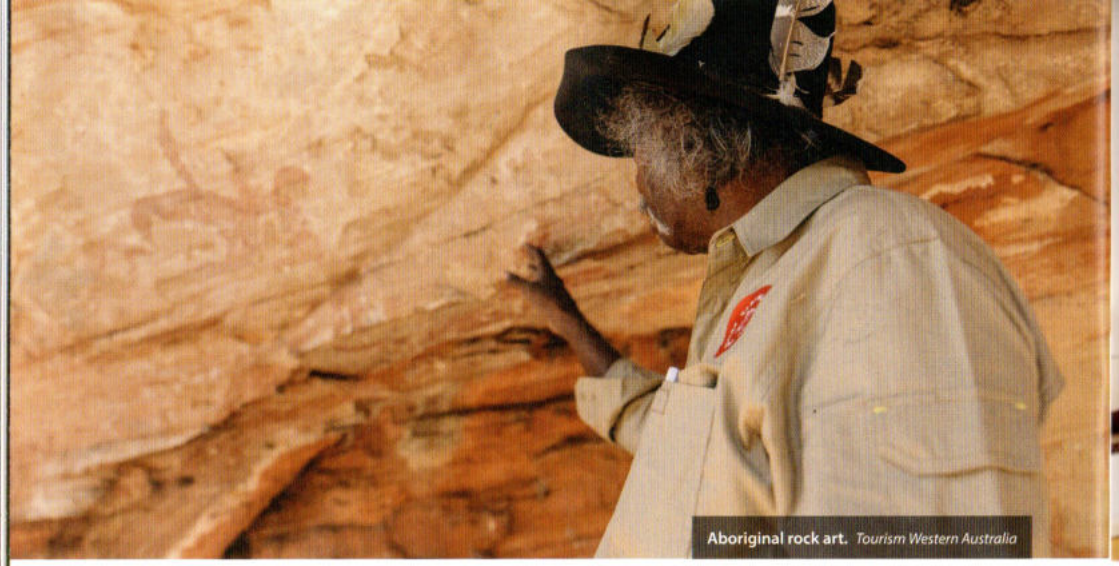
The Kimberley is a living landscape and the relationship between Aboriginal people and country is one of mutual respect and benefit.

Renowned for its vibrant colours, remarkable landscape and unique biodiversity, the Kimberley is home to some of Australia's priority biodiversity hotspots. It is also of outstanding importance to the nation and as such has been National Heritage Listed for its Indigenous cultural and natural values. The Indigenous nation has played an instrumental role in preserving, managing and enhancing the natural living environment.

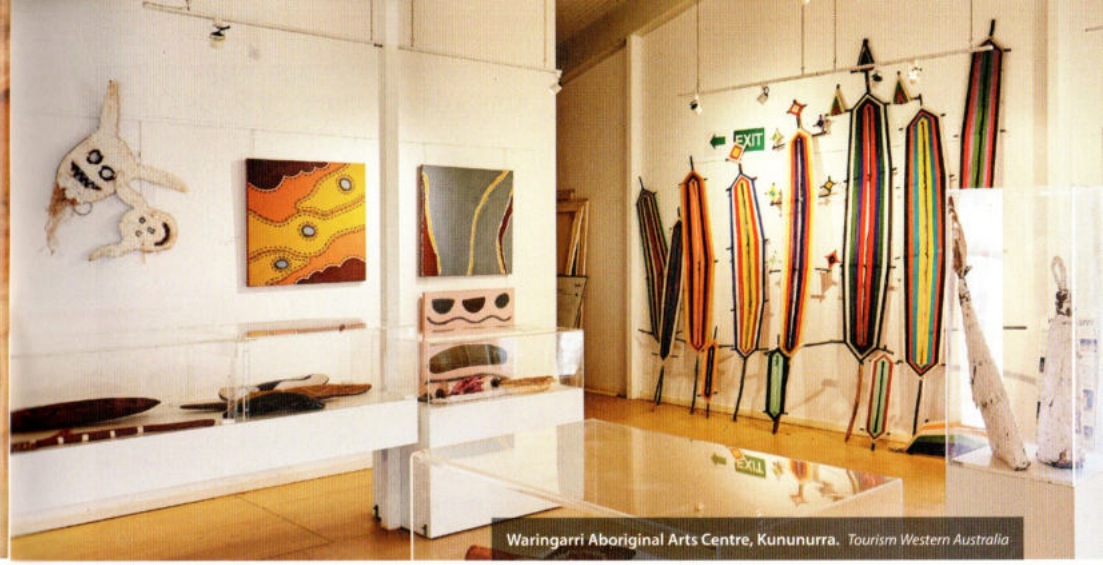
The Kimberley is a significant Aboriginal place that holds an energy found nowhere else in the world.

Kimberley Ranger Network

The Kimberley Ranger Network is facilitated by the Kimberley Land Council (KLC) and supported by the Australian Government. It works to realise Indigenous aspirations to look after country while providing real jobs, training and education, as well as improving socioeconomic standards and community wellbeing.



Aboriginal rock art. *Tourism Western Australia*



Waringarri Aboriginal Arts Centre, Kununurra. *Tourism Western Australia*

The Kimberley Ranger Network is a grass-roots initiative that encourages nation building, as elders work with rangers and young people to pass on traditional knowledge of looking after country while enhancing law, language and culture.

Kimberley Aboriginal people have declared a corridor of Indigenous Protected Areas – highly sensitive areas with important biodiversity values across the coast and deep into the heart of the Kimberley. The corridor is one of the largest Indigenous conservation areas in Australia and is providing opportunitiès to create ecosystem based business enterprises while protecting culture. The KLC facilitates 14 ranger groups that employ more than 100 Aboriginal rangers, elders and associated staff who look after land and sea country. Ranger activities can include fire management, feral species monitoring and eradication, research, water monitoring, rock art and cultural heritage management, climate change strategies, coastal monitoring and biodiversity surveys.

The Kimberley Ranger Network is not only achieving environmental success but generates positive social benefits that are far and wide reaching. The Kimberley is a big place, but you might just see the rangers in your travels. Make sure you keep an eye out and say hello.

Kimberley Rock Art

"Rock Art is like our library in the bush. When we find painted fingerprints and footprints, it tells us who the people were for that country. A painting of animals tells you what food you can find there. Paintings can warn us of danger too" – Jason Adams, Uunguu Ranger

The dynamic rock art of the Kimberley provides an amazing visual insight into ancient Aboriginal culture. The region is famous for its Wandjina and Gwion Gwion (Bradshaw) rock art that depicts spirit figures that have been painted on rocks and caves across the north Kimberley.

Rock art in the Kimberley is part of a dynamic, living culture that connects people, country and everything within it.

All rock art sites are protected under law and it is an offence to damage or interfere with any art sites. Kimberley Aboriginal people hope you enjoy the magic of the Kimberley but ask that you respect cultural places and rock art sites and follow all signs outlining where it is safe and not safe to visit.

ART AT THE HEART

The East Kimberley is blessed with superb landscapes and dramatic weather, as well as thousands of years of Aboriginal history. Many artists have lived or chosen to base themselves here, and interpreted this wonderful region into their artworks, sculptures, photography, jewellery, ceramics and more. Art really is at the heart of the Kimberley.

Spend time in Kununurra's 3 beautiful art galleries, Artlandish, Waringarri Arts and Artopia, which have permanent displays as well as new exhibitions featuring locally based and internationally renowned artists. From Aboriginal paintings of the Wandjina dream spirits, to contemporary landscapes painted with real gold and diamonds, paintings of wildlife so accurate you would swear they are photographs and the chance to see some of our Aboriginal artists at work, this is a day out in itself for the art lover.

Looking for other memories of the Kimberley? Try Birdland, Penney's Prints, Walkabout Souvenirs and the Chikshed for unique and delightful handmade pottery, jewellery, photography as well as cards, candles and other gifts.

Of course, the Pink Diamond is a stunning sight on its own, but Kununurra's two jewellers, Kimberley Fine Diamonds and Nina's, have created truly stunning pieces featuring the diamonds, as well as gold, silver and other materials. It costs nothing to browse and the staff here will be happy to show you some of the region's gems. With the Diamond Mine closing in 2020 it might be a good investment!

Have you heard of Zebra Rock? Only found within a small radius of Kununurra, this rock naturally forms in beautiful bands that explain the name. Visit our town's 2 galleries; Kimberley Ornamental Stonecraft and Rockalong, to see the stunning jewellery and ornaments made from this unique Kimberley stone.

Pop into the Visitor Centre for a local map to help you find your way to these beautiful places.

If you're heading down south, then Warmun's world famous art gallery is a must-see for artworks of the Gija people.

Kimberley Fine Diamonds
Located on Konkerberry Drive, a selection of fine art and gifts in store, hand crafted jewellery using Argyle Pink Diamonds.

Kimberley Ornamental Stone Craft
Located on Riverfarm Road – unique Kimberley zebra stone hand crafted by local and international artists. Browse the gallery and take a look at the workshop, where they work the Zebra stone.

Penney's Prints
Located in the Kununurra Visitor Centre, local photographer who offers a variety of Kimberley inspired merchandise, jewellery, candles and gifts.

Nina's Jewellery
As one of very few ateliers of Argyle Pink Diamonds in the world, Nina's can show you a range of jewellery you won't find elsewhere.

Birdland Functional Art
Located on Poincettia Way – unique pottery, glass & jewellery made here in the Kimberley. Browse the gallery for a selection of handmade pieces on offer. Not to be missed.

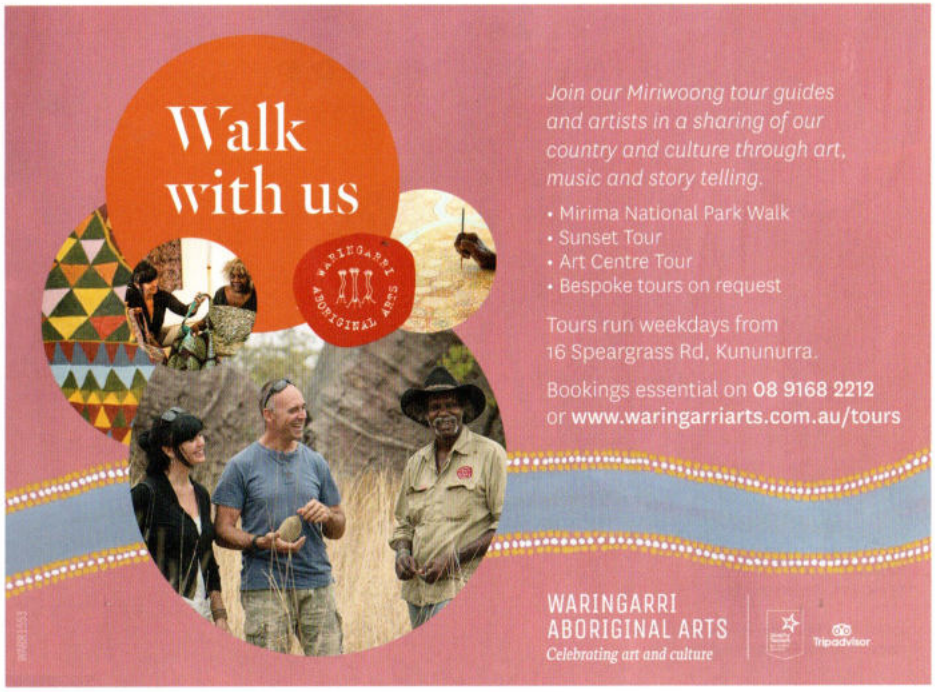
Waringarri Arts
Located on Speargrass Road – Waringarri Aboriginal Arts is a wholly Aboriginal-owned art centre specialising in contemporary collectable Indigenous art of the East Kimberley region.

Artopia
Located on Konkerberry Drive – original art created by local artists that capture the dramatic Kimberley region, jewellery, photography, unique gifts and more.

The ChikShed
Located on Jabiru Road – The ChikShed produces unique mosaic and textile handicrafts such as planters, mirrors, pottery and glass. A special gift for a special person.

Artlandish
Located on Papuana Street – specialises in current works and private collections from the Ochre Masters of the Kimberley, also offer a huge range of authentic boomerangs, boab nuts and more.

Walkabout Souvenirs
Found in the Coles shopping centre, Walkabout has a great range of unique boab, stone and leather gifts.



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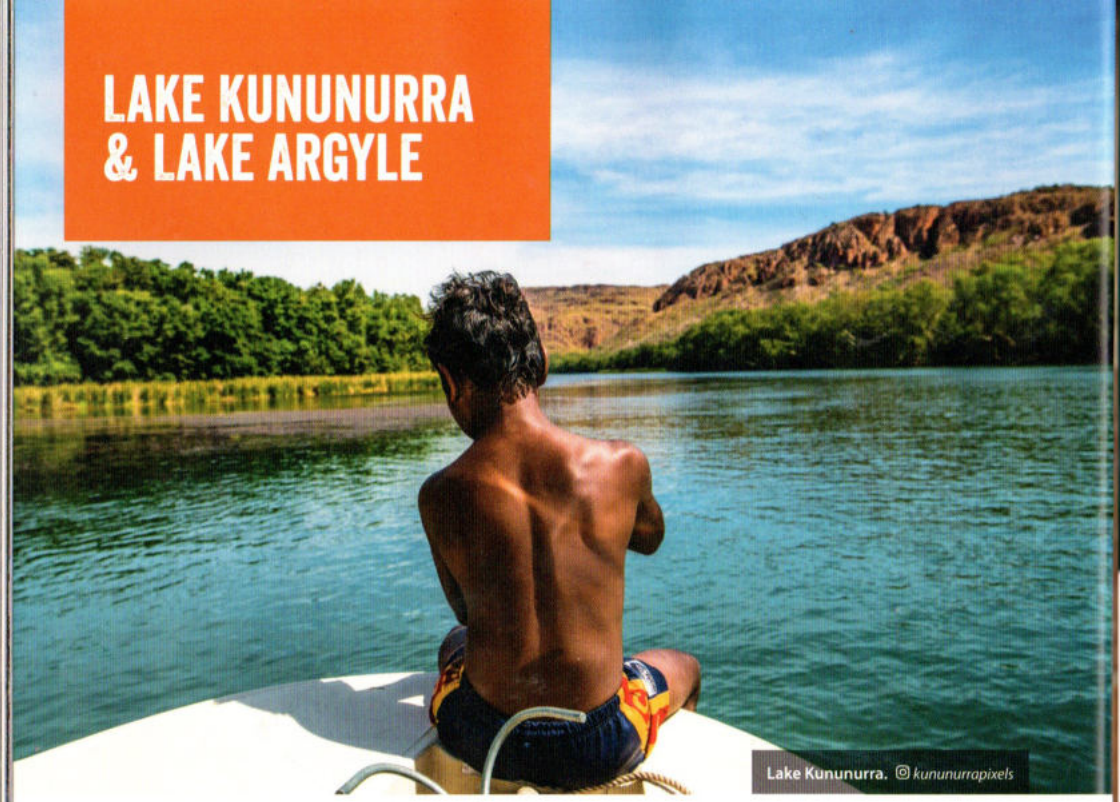


Lake Kununurra. *kununurrapixels*

The Ord River was once the fastest flowing river in Australia. It was harnessed by the construction of two dams in 1963 and 1971 to develop the agricultural industry in the Ord Valley. The damming of the Ord created two of the most spectacular lakes in Australia - Lake Argyle and Lake Kununurra.

Lake Kununurra

You wouldn't want to visit Kununurra without taking a trip up the 55km stretch of river from Kununurra to Lake Argyle. This section of the Ord River is referred to as Lake Kununurra or the Upper Ord. Lake Kununurra is a man-made reservoir that was formed after the completion of the Diversion Dam in 1962. It harbours a large variety of flora and fauna, forms wetland areas, and provides a water frontage to Kununurra. As you wind upriver you will not be disappointed with the amount of wildlife on offer, including crocodiles, sea eagles, kingfishers, bats and more! At the end of the 55km stretch, the Ord Top Dam separates Lake Kununurra and Lake Argyle.

Lake Argyle

Located just 70km south of Kununurra lies Lake Argyle, the largest reservoir of fresh water in Australia and one of the most spectacular scenic locations in the East Kimberley. Lake Argyle was created by damming the Ord River (1973) and forms a storage reservoir for the Ord Irrigation area. The result is a massive expanse of freshwater equivalent to 19 Sydney harbours on average. Lake Argyle features many bays, inlets and islands and provides spectacular views either at water level or from the air.

Lake Argyle. *Tourism Western Australia*

Lake Argyle is a unique ecosystem, home to an amazing array of wildlife including 25,000 freshwater crocodiles, 26 species of native fish, 90 islands which are home to various marsupials and reptiles and approximately one third of Australia's bird species which at times can number in the tens of thousands.

Lake Argyle is designated as a RAMSAR wetland of International Significance.

What to do:

There is an adventure for everyone on Lake Argyle and Lake Kununurra. You can experience an awe-inspiring scenic cruise on either of these lakes, which is one of the most popular attractions in Kununurra.

A cruise on Lake Kununurra will get you up to speed on the amazing scenery and wildlife, including freshwater crocodiles, eagles and the elusive kingfisher. For the more adventurous traveller, opt for a self-guided canoe of the lakes over 1, 2 or 3 days and marvel at the views and wildlife in your own time.

A cruise of Lake Argyle's shoreline and islands will give you close encounters with an incredible variety of native fauna, from freshwater crocodiles, fish and wallabies to more than 240 species of birds. The sunset cruises are particularly memorable, as you get into the beautiful soft water with a glass of fizz, and push trays of nibbles between you and your fellow travellers while watching the sun set over the ranges.

Alternatively, take an evening in the slow lane and soak up a Kimberley sunset with the Lake Kununurra Sunset Cruise, the perfect way to enjoy great local food and relax after a day exploring the spectacular East Kimberley region. Scenic flights also operate between Kununurra and Lake Argyle, which will give you an unrivalled view of Lake Argyle.

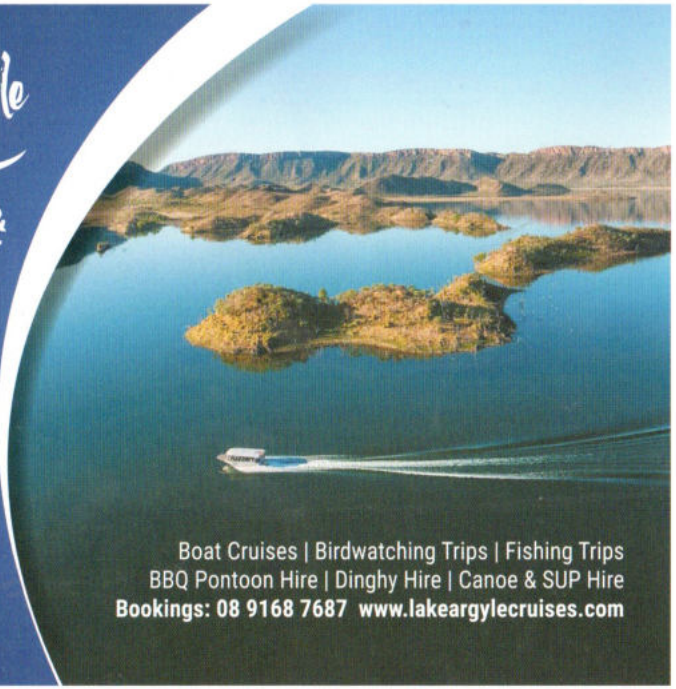
Both Lake Argyle and Lake Kununurra are also great spots for keen anglers. Locals and visitors utilise the lakes as water-sports playgrounds, and calm weather makes both of these locations a water skier's dream! The Kununurra Ski Club also hosts a Dam to Dam dinghy race on Lake Kununurra every year.

If you'd like to learn more about Lake Kununurra or Lake Argyle, including information about tours and accommodation, get in touch with the Kununurra Visitor Centre.

Lake Argyle CRUISES

THE ORIGINAL & STILL THE BEST

In the vast Kimberley region of Western Australia, there is a lake 21 times bigger than Sydney Harbour... we know every shore



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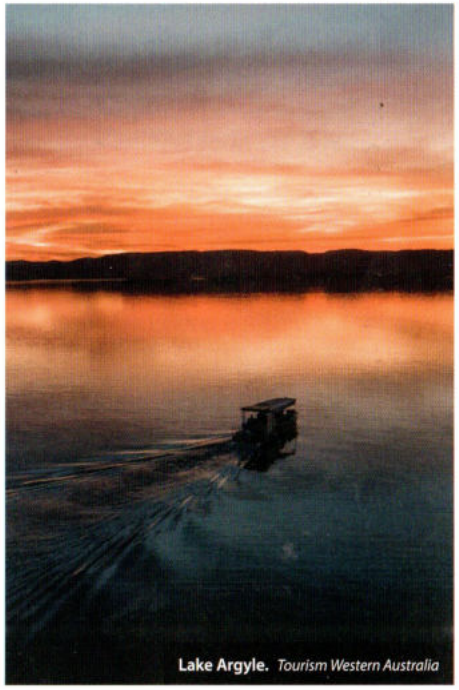

Lake Argyle. *Tourism Western Australia*

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Lake Argyle

Mitchell Falls. *Kununurra Visitor Centre*

MITCHELL FALLS

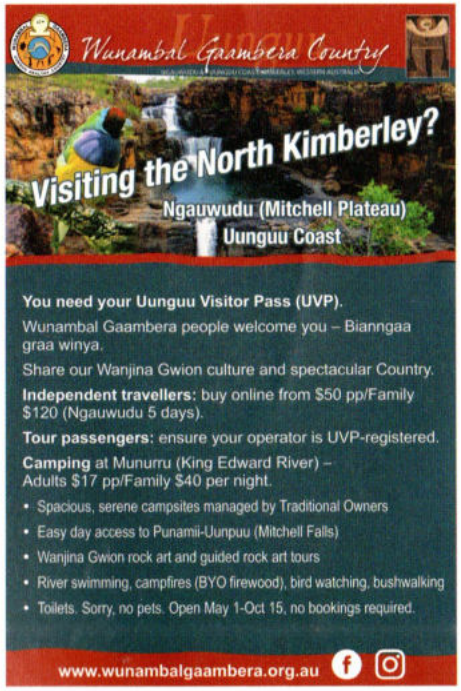
It may take some time and effort to reach this magnificent part of the East Kimberley, but when you do, it's definitely worth it! The Mitchell Falls are one of the most sought-after attractions in the Kimberley and rightly so. You need to see it to believe it!

There are several ways you can reach Mitchell Falls or Mitchell Plateau and enjoy the walks and wildlife in the surrounding area. You can take a scenic flight from either Drysdale Station or Kununurra or you can drive along the Gibb River Road yourself and stay in the campground or Wilderness Lodge. There is also a scenic flight operator located on the ground should you wish to take to the air!

If you're heading up to Mitchell Plateau you will need to purchase an Uunguu pass; available at the Kununurra Visitor Centre, Drysdale River Station or Munurru campground.

For mor information or to purchase online go to **www.wunambalgaambera.org.au**

It is approximately 523kms from Kununurra to the Mitchell Falls Wilderness Lodge.



Bungle Bungle Range. *Tourism Western Australia*

THE BUNGLE BUNGLE RANGE

The Bungle Bungle Range is an astonishing formation of beehive-shaped sandstone domes, situated in Purnululu National Park. Purnululu is one of only 20 UNESCO listed World Heritage Sites in Australia.

Atmospheric, breathtaking and unforgettable, walk amongst the 250-metre-high domes and marvel at the changing colours of the rocks during the day. Long known by the Gija people of the East Kimberley, it wasn't 'discovered' by Europeans until 1983 when a film crew saw it from the air. A short flight from Kununurra, or a 300km drive (see 'access' section below) makes this jewel of the Kimberley easily accessible for today's visitors.

There are several walks within the park of varying length and difficulty, all of which are sure to delight. Choose to join up with a guide and really learn about how the land was used by the locals many years ago. You will learn about Aboriginal art, spinifex plants and their many uses, the intricacy of termite colonies and much more.

As well as enjoying the 360 million-year-old domes, things not to miss in Purnululu include Cathedral Gorge, a natural amphitheatre which amplifies every sound; Echidna Chasm with its winding path through two massive rock formations; Piccanniny Creek one of the longer but rewarding walks; and stunning views over the Tanami Desert.

Purnululu deserves at least two days of your time, and there are a great range of options to spend the night, from caravanning, pitching a tent at the Parks and Wildlife campgrounds or for a taste of luxury, choose from the two resorts inside the Park. For those unable to drive in themselves, the Caravan Park at the Highway turnoff offers coach tours into the Park.

Feeling adventurous? Book a helicopter flight to see this unique landscape from above.

For the best rates and to learn more about our fantastic tour operators for these East Kimberley icons then please visit our website **www.visitkununurra.com**

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Bell Gorge Wilderness Lodge:
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Bungle Bungle Wilderness Lodge:
Appreciate the tranquillity of the Kimberley, stay in the centre of Purnululu National Park, offering access to the famous beehive-like domes of the Bungle Bungle Range, Echida Chasm, Piccaninny Creek and the natural amphitheatre of Cathedral Gorge.

Mitchell Falls Wilderness Lodge:
Perfectly placed for an in-depth discovery of the breathtaking tiered Mitchell Falls and the rarely seen Gwion Gwion (Bradshaw) and Wandjina Indigenous rock art. Experience the Ungolan Pavilion featuring a lounge, library, bar and dining area, offering an ideal spot to relax after each day's exploration.

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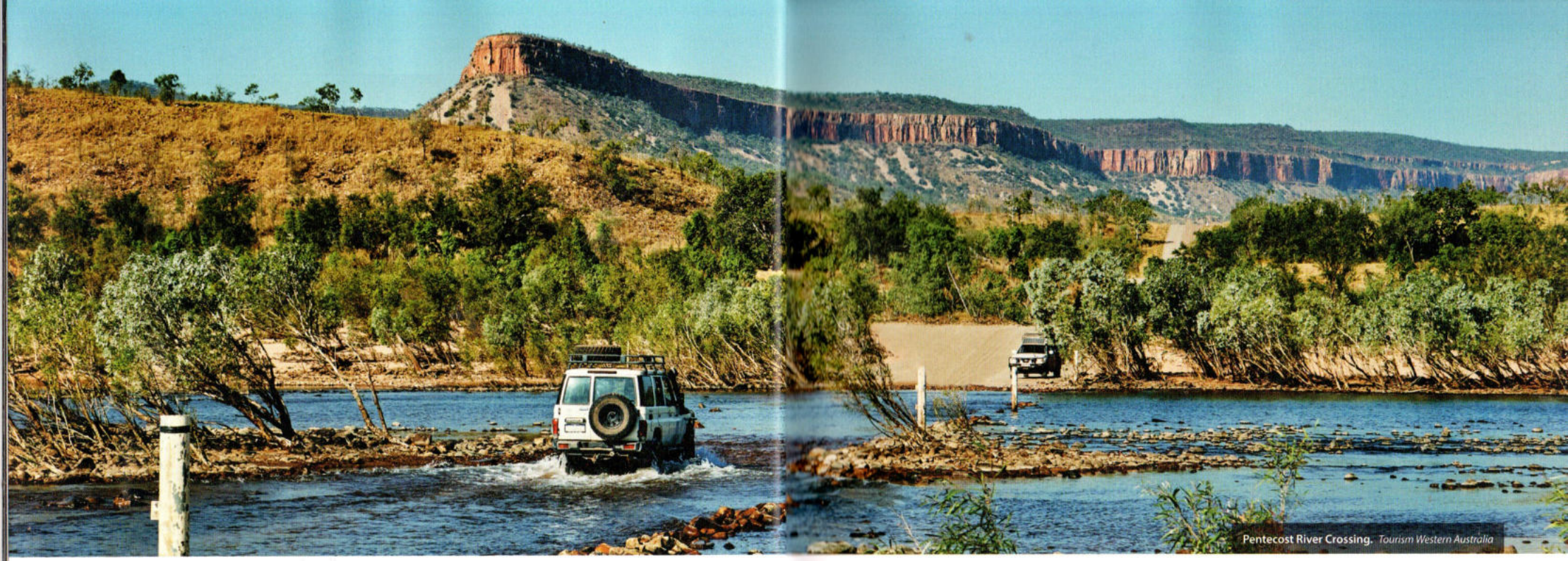


Pentecost River Crossing. *Tourism Western Australia*

THE GIBB RIVER ROAD

The 686km long Gibb River Road stretches from Kununurra in the east to Derby in the west. This iconic 4WD road was originally used to transport cattle around the remote stations of the Kimberley. Now the beauty and rugged outback adventures that can be found along the route have been recognised and are enjoyed by thousands of tourists each year. Remote camping, billion-star nights, high end accommodation, best-in-the-world waterfalls and gorges, live music and scones are just some of the highlights along the way. Be prepared, take your time and tick it off the bucket list, the Gibb is the stuff of legends!

Your Self-drive Adventure

The following advice is designed to assist in the planning of your self-drive adventure along the Gibb River Road and for those intending to travel onto Kalumburu.

All trips in the Kimberley are dependent upon road conditions and the Kununurra Visitor Centre can advise of up-to-date road reports. The information presented here is recommended for trips planned between May and October.

Check out our Facebook Page for up to date information about the Gibb River Road.

A high clearance 4WD is strongly recommended for those intending to travel the Gibb River and Kalumburu Roads, and consideration must be made if intending to tow any form of trailer or caravan. It is recommended that any trailer or caravan be specifically designed and built with major off-road structural capabilities.

Along the Gibb, camping is restricted to designated camp sites. However, there are a number of stations that offer comfortable accommodation options. The lighting of fires is only allowed in designated fireplaces, and all rubbish should be disposed of in the rubbish bins if available, otherwise you are required to take your rubbish with you.

Please note that pets are not permitted in National Parks and please seek permission before taking them onto private property.

Accommodation

- El Questro (100km from Kununurra)
- Home Valley Station (115km from Kununurra)
- Ellenbrae Station (230km from Kununurra)
- Drysdale River Station (353km from Kununurra on the Kalumburu Road)
- Mt Elizabeth Station (390km from Kununurra)
- Charnley River Station (494km from Kununurra)
- Mornington Wilderness Sanctuary (546km from Kununurra)
- Mt Hart Wilderness Lodge (565km from Kununurra)
- Birdwood Downs Station (689km from Kununurra).

Safety

- Carry sufficient drinking water
- Carry at least 20 litres of extra fuel
- Carry two spare wheels or a full tyre repair kit
- Carry a selection of vehicle spares, i.e. fan belt, fuel filter, radiator hoses etc.
- Before heading off into any remote region, inform family and friends of your intended departure and arrival times
- Drive to road conditions at a safe comfortable speed
- Be crocodile aware at all waterways
- Allow sufficient time to explore the region in order to ensure an enjoyable Gibb River Road experience.

El Questro Station.

El Questro Station. *Tourism Western Australia*

EL QUESTRO

Located about 100kms outside Kununurra, along the Gibb River Road, El Questro Wilderness Park is without a doubt worth visiting and staying for a couple of days! There are a few different options if you are looking to stay. The Homestead offers the ultimate luxury getaway, at the main station you can choose camping or lodge style accommodation, and at Emma Gorge there are beautiful tented cabins to feel even closer to nature.

From your base there are lots of amazing spots to explore across the Park, including El Questro Gorge, Emma Gorge and Zebedee Springs. Make an accommodation booking by contacting the Kununurra Visitor Centre.

Emma Gorge. *Kununurra Visitor Centre*

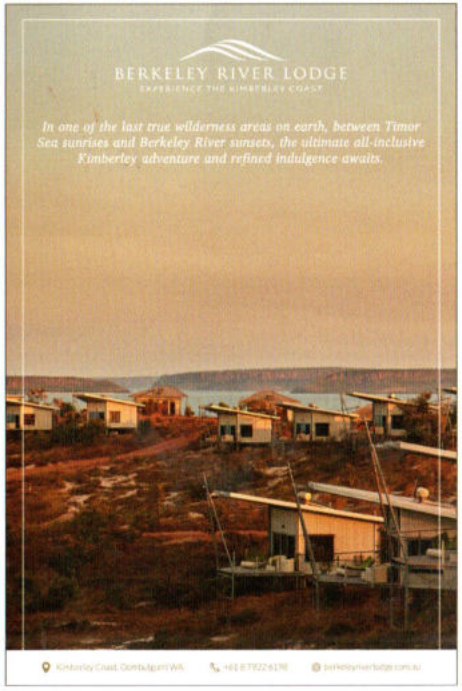
Horizontal Falls.

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

Thought you'd seen it all? The Kimberley always has something more to offer and delight you with. If you're looking to land a monster fish, experience the world-famous Horizontal Falls, ride a camel on Cable Beach or find luxury in the middle of ancient lands then you've come to the right place. Expert guides, chefs and hosts will make these bucket list experiences even more memorable.

Contact us at the Visitor Centre to help you make the very most of your time in this wonderful country.

King River. *Tourism Western Australia*



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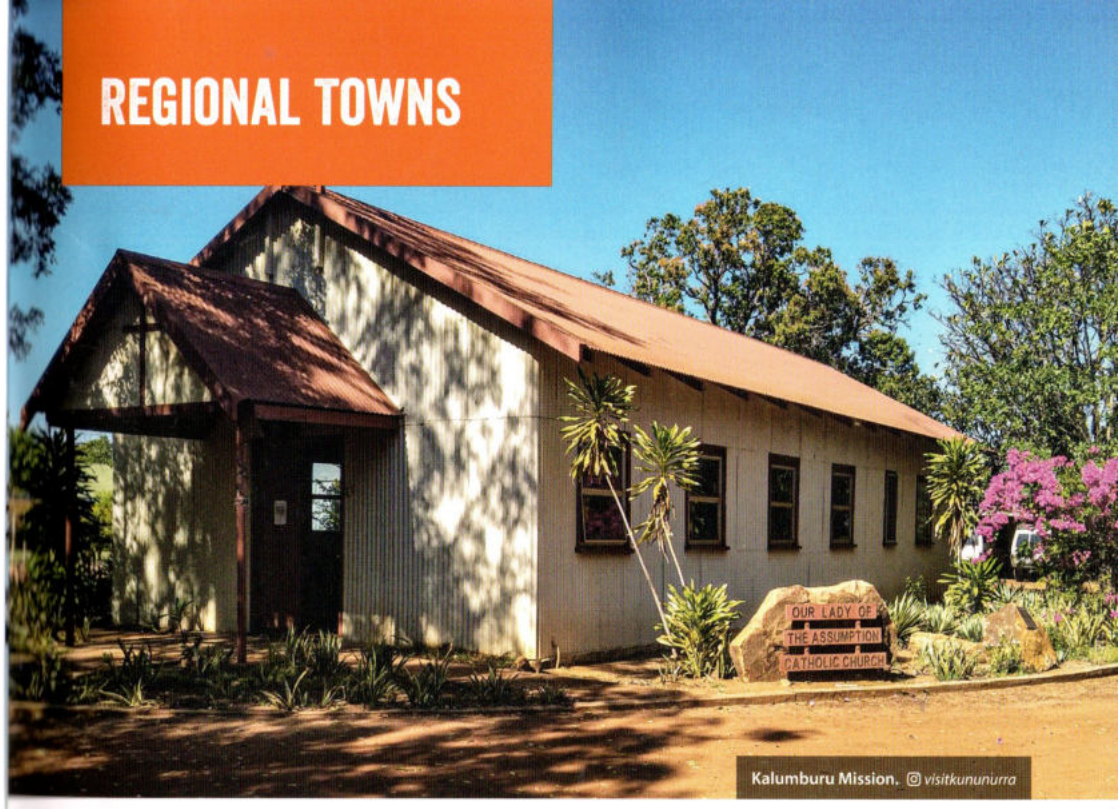


Kalumburu Mission. @visitkununurra

SURROUNDING REGIONS

Warmun (Turkey Creek)

Warmun is an Aboriginal community approximately 200km from Kununurra along the Great Northern Highway. The world renowned Warmun Art Centre is located in the community and is open to visitors. The community has limited facilities but is well served by the Turkey Creek Roadhouse for fuel, supplies and accommodation or as a base from which to visit the Purnululu National Park.

The NT

Great places to spend a day or more in the Northern Territory are the Keep River National Park and the Gregory National Park or try a bit of Barra fishing on the Victoria River, all within a couple of hours drive from Kununurra.

Fuel is available at Timber Creek and at the Victoria River Roadhouse. Katherine is 526km from Kununurra and is about 5-6 hours travel time.

If you are travelling north to Darwin allow yourself approximately 3-4 hours for the drive from Katherine. Better still, take your time and experience all the region has to offer from the world heritage listed Kakadu National Park, the old gold mining town of Pine Creek, the Douglas Daly region, Adelaide River Township and Litchfield Park.

The city of Darwin having survived the bombings of World War II and Cyclone Tracy in 1974 is today a modern city that boasts all the services and facilities required of a population of around 120,000 people. With an international and domestic airport and a national rail link, Darwin offers wide and varied accommodation and tour options with easy access to the iconic Territory destinations.

Dimalurru (Tunnel Creek). *Tourism Western Australia*

Keep River National Park

Located about a 40 minute drive east of Kununurra are the spectacular ranges and geological formations that make up the Keep River National Park. Featuring numerous walk trails and two camping areas, the Park is the region's best kept secret.

Savannah Way

The Savannah Way is an adventure drive trail from Cairns in Queensland, through the Northern Territory into Western Australia, ending in Broome. Along the 3,699km journey the traveller will experience a diverse and unique Australian landscape that can change and transform around every corner and along every remote stretch of outback road. Places like the Undara Lava Tubes and the town of Normanton, the Nitmiluk and Gregory National Parks and the famous Gibb River Road and Lake Argyle to name a few.

Duncan Road

Is a 429km gravel road that criss-crosses the WA/NT border from the Victoria Highway to Halls Creek meeting up with the Buchanan Highway 140km east of Halls Creek. The drive takes the traveller through some spectacular outback scenery to the east of Lake Argyle.

Bell Gorge. *Tourism Western Australia*

Tourism Western Australia

FISHING

When it comes to recreational fishing, the vast coastline of the East Kimberley with its many rivers and estuaries, provides a valuable habitat that is home to an incredible fisher resource.

Just one of the target species is the fabled Barramundi; 'catching a Barra' is what many visitors to our region dream of. To ensure the sustainability of fish stocks please remember the following:

- Barramundi have a legal-size limit between 55-80cm throughout Western Australia
- There is a state-wide bag limit of 2 barramundi and an overall possession limit of 2 barramundi per angler
- All barramundi start life as male fish and depending upon habitat and food source change to female fish at about 80cm
- Barramundi may only be caught by means of a rod and reel or hand line
- When handling your catch always cradle the fish with wet hands under the belly. Don't hold a fish by the lower jaw and always support the fish's weight
- When measuring fish lay them on a wet smooth surface

The tidal waterways are also home to the highly sought-after mud crab, a delicacy on anyone's plate. Two types of 'muddies' are found in the region, the Green Mud Crab and the Brown Mud Crab. Size, bag and capture restrictions apply.

Please be aware that bag and size limits apply to most target species for offshore fishing along our coastline. For more information visit **www.fish.wa.gov.au**

- A recreational license is required if using a throw net and fishing from a boat
- Treat all fish humanely
- Abide by all fishing regulations
- Use only legally approved tackle
- Bring all your rubbish home
- Fish for the future

Did you know?

Barramundi have been recorded up to 150cm long and with weights in excess of 40kg, are thought to live up to around 20 years of age. Large females can produce 32 million eggs in a season.

Purnululu National Park. *Tourism Western Australia*

NATIONAL PARKS

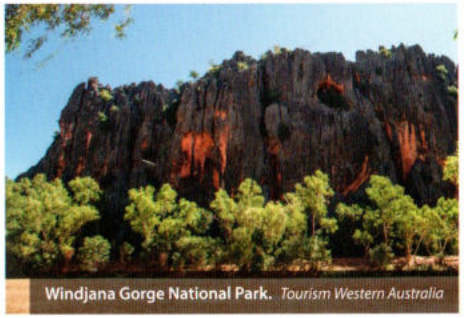
Many of the natural attractions of the East Kimberley are managed as National Parks or Nature Reserves. The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions has the responsibility of managing WA's National Parks, Conservation Parks, Marine Parks, and Nature Reserves. Walk trails and camping areas are provided in most parks. For your safety please stay on marked trails and only camp in dedicated camp sites. Please also be advised that no pets are permitted within National Parks in the Kimberley Region

In the Kimberley, visitor fees and camping fees may apply – these are listed below:

Park	Entry Fee	Camping Fee
Mirima	Yes	No Camping
Purnululu	Yes	Yes (online booking only)
Mitchell River	Yes	Yes
Windjana Gorge	Yes	Yes
Tunnel Creek	Yes	No Camping
Bell Creek and Silent Grove	No	Yes
Parry Lagoons Nature Reserve	No	No Camping
Wolfe Creek	Yes	No
Ngamoowalem	No	No Camping

All current National Parks fee rates are available at the Kununurra Visitor Centre along with Holiday and Season Park passes. If you intend to visit numerous National Parks while in WA these passes will save you time and money.

For all your WA National Parks info contact the Kununurra Visitor Centre.



Windjana Gorge National Park. *Tourism Western Australia*

Mirima National Park

Located just minutes from Kununurra, Mirima was declared a National Park in 1982 to conserve the natural features and the associated local Miriuwung people's sites.

Mirima is a small park with sandstone ranges, cliffs and valleys, similar in appearance to parts of the Bungle Bungle Range. The park features 350 million year old sandstone, subject to some striking colour changes due to sunlight variances, and the region is known for its spectacular photo opportunities.

Mirima is the name given to the area by the local Miriuwung people and retains many sites of cultural significance.

Access

Access is via a sealed bitumen road.

Mirima Facilities

An entry fee applies and facilities include an information shelter, BBQ picnic area, tables, toilet and car park.

Camping or fires are not permitted at any time within Mirima National Park.

Walks

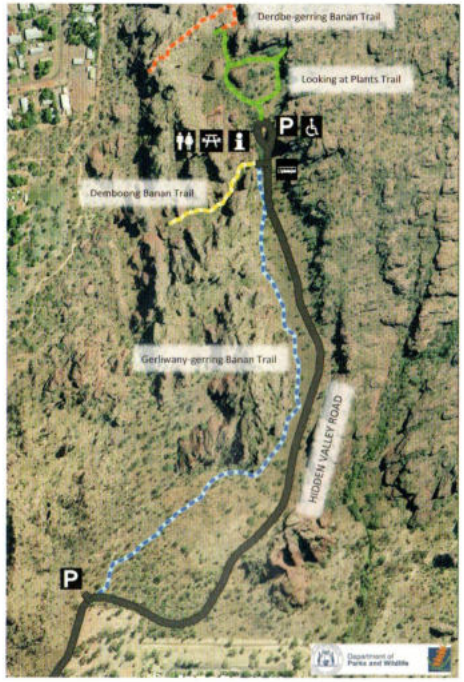
Four walk trails are available within Mirima.

The "Derbde-gerring Banan" or "Lookout Walk" takes you to the top of the range and provides spectacular views over the Ord Valley and surrounding sandstone ranges. This 800m return walk is a Class 4 – moderate to difficult.

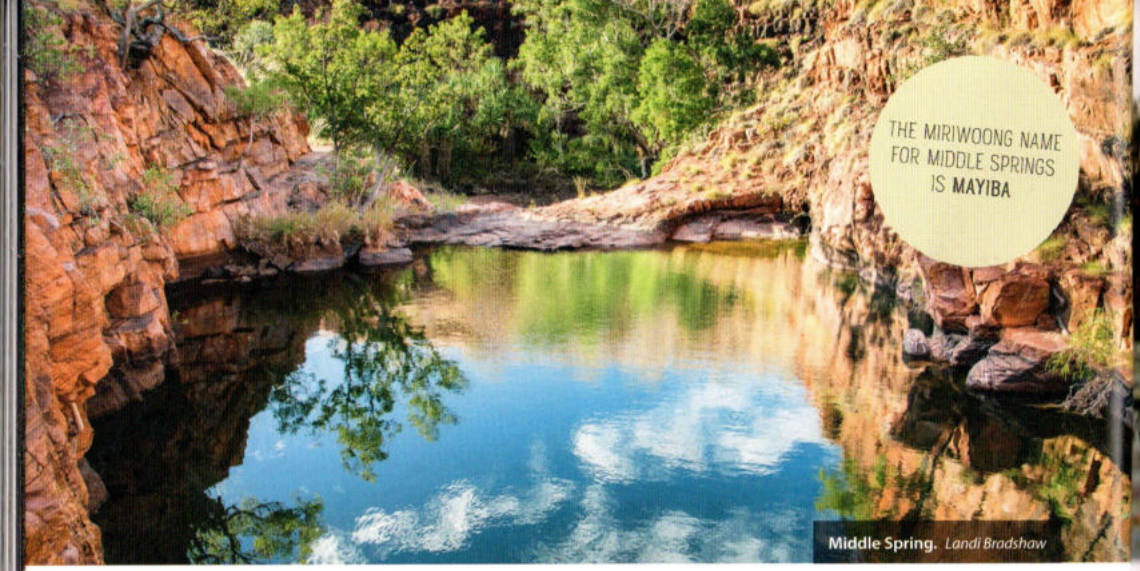
The "Looking at Plants" walk is a 400m return loop walk that includes a universal access boardwalk and trailside signage to help you get to know some of the local plants and their traditional uses.

The "Demboong Banan" or 'gap trail' is 500m return and rewards you with a spectacular view of Kununurra through a gap in the eroded sandstone.

Mirima National Park. *#visitkununurra*



The "Gerliwany-gerring Banan" walk is a trail that traverses savannah woodland from the entrance right into the heart of Hidden Valley where the car park is situated. This walk is a moderate, 2.2km return walk.



Middle Spring. *Landi Bradshaw*

Ngamoowalem Conservation Park

Ngamoowalem Conservation Park is one of the six conservation parks jointly managed between the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and the Miriuwung and Gajerrong people. Ngamoowalem has five sites that can be visited; Molly Spring, Valentine Spring, Middle Spring, Black Rock Falls and Spring Creek track.

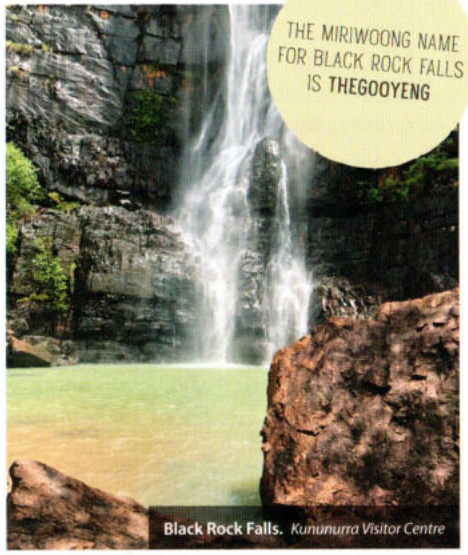
Molly Spring has a permanent pool, and in the wet season the rain creates stunning waterfalls at all the sites. The water flows off the Livistonia Range, which runs through the middle of the park. This unique range is home to a diverse range of plants including the cycad and fan palm. There are many sites of cultural significance in the conservation park.

Access

Molly Spring can be accessed from Victoria Hwy 30km west of Kununurra; the track is gravel but can be accessed by 2WD vehicles in the dry season. Valentines, Middle and Black Rock are all located off Valentine Spring Rd which comes off Victoria Hwy, 14km west of Kununurra. Valentine Spring Rd is gravel, corrugated and in the wet season floods, care must always be taken at creek crossings. Entrances to Middle and Black Rock are four wheel drive access only, the tracks are prone to flooding and require high clearance.

Facilities

There are picnic facilities provided at Middle, Spring Creek track and Black Rock, and no facilities at Valentines. Please take your rubbish with you. Molly Spring has BBQ picnic facilities, toilets and a car park with room to facilitate buses and vans.



Black Rock Falls. *Kununurra Visitor Centre*

Marlgu Billabong. *Kununurra Visitor Centre*

Parry Lagoons Nature Reserve

The wetlands of this Nature Reserve provide important feeding and breeding grounds for many birds including some migratory shore birds from as far away as Siberia. Parry Lagoons has been listed on the Register of National Estate, and is a RAMSAR listed wetland of International significance.

In addition to the wetland of the Ord River flood plain, this 36,000ha reserve includes grasslands, woodlands and rugged sandstone outcrops and ranges.

Access

The main access road into the Reserve is Parry Creek Road which is approximately 20km south of Wyndham, off the Great Northern Highway. From the highway the road into the Reserve is gravel, corrugated and during the wet season prone to flooding. These roads may be closed without notice due to unseasonal rains.

Parry Lagoons Highlights and Facilities

Marlgu Billabong features a boardwalk and shaded bird hide that allows the traveller to take in the sights and sounds, of the many birds and maybe even a crocodile. Interpretive display boards assist visitors in identifying their surroundings and the many species which inhabit this beautiful area.

Echidna Chasm, Purnululu National Park. *Tourism Western Australia*

Purnululu National Park (Bungle Bungle)

The Bungle Bungle Range is renowned for its striking sandstone domes, striped with orange and grey bands. Purnululu is the name given to the sandstone area by Aboriginal people and covers an area of almost 240,000 hectares.

The Bungle Bungle Range has been a tourist destination since 1983 and was granted World Heritage status in 2003.

Access

Purnululu is typically open in early April until the 1st of December depending on weather conditions. The park may also be temporarily closed due to fires or unseasonal rain.

Access is restricted to **4WD only** and only SINGLE AXLE off-road or heavy-duty trailers, caravans and other towable units are permitted in the park.

2WD vehicles and DUAL AXLE trailers, caravans and other towable units ARE NOT permitted into the park and will be asked to leave.

Visitors must register at the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Visitors Centre on arrival.

Geology

The Bungle Bungle Range:

- Are an estimated 360 million years old.
- Rise over 200 metres high.
- Formed during the Devonian age.
- Carved over 20 million years through erosional forces.
- The grey banding is formed by cyanobacteria.
- The orange banding is the result of oxidised iron compounds within the layers.

Facilities

There are two Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions campsites with basic amenities such as bush toilets and water. Visitors are advised to boil water prior to drinking. Campsites are non-powered.

Campground Bookings

Campground bookings can be made online at www.parkstay.dpaw.wa.gov.au. All visitors must register at the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Visitors Centre on arrival to the park.

Tour companies operate outside and within the park offering a range of guided walks, 4WD transfers, safari stays, accommodation and helicopter flights. Scenic flights are available from various locations along the Great Northern Highway between Halls Creek and Kununurra.

All tours can be booked through the Kununurra Visitor Centre.

Ngauwudu Management Area (Includes Mitchell River National Park)

The Ngauwudu Management Area is located in the far north of the Kimberley and is extremely remote. Visitors need to be completely self-sufficient as the area has few facilities. It is important to ensure that you carry sufficient water, food and fuel supplies. Camping and entry fees apply.

It is one of the most biologically important areas in the Kimberley. The landscape around the laterite-capped plateau varies from mangroves and wetlands, to woodlands and lush rainforest pockets. The area has a rich diversity of wildlife, with many rare animals, such as the Monjon (Australia's smallest rock wallaby) and the black grass wren.

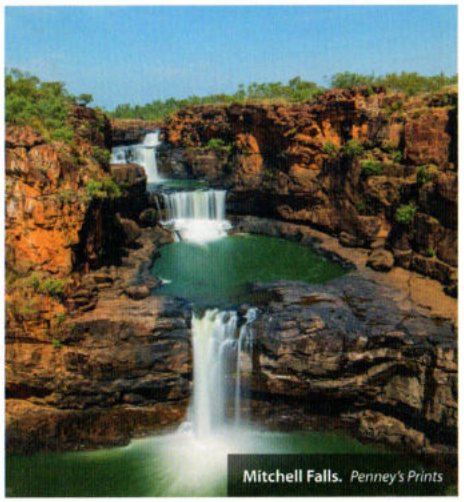
The area contains many Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and features fine examples of the various forms of rock art.

Access

The Ngauwudu Management Area is restricted to 4WD vehicles only, via the Gibb River Kalumburu Rd and the Port Warrender track. The 85km Port Warrender track is narrow, winding and at times extremely rough with numerous washouts and corrugations.

Only dry season access to the plateau is permitted. It is recommended that you contact the **Kununurra Visitor Centre** prior to departure to gain the up-to-date road reports in this region.

Aerial access is available from Drysdale River Station, Wyndham and Kununurra by way of numerous scenic flights.



Mitchell Falls. *Penney's Prints*

Ngauwudu Highlights and Facilities

The Mitchell Falls are formed by a series of spectacular cascades and are best viewed just after the wet season (May – July) when maximum water is falling. The falls normally flow all year round but by the late dry season (Sept-Oct) can be reduced to only a trickle. The total height of the falls is 150m.

There are numerous walk trails within the area and most are considered moderate to difficult. These walk trails take you to the Mitchell Falls, Merten's Gorge and into Surveyors Pool. The falls are hazardous; always stay away from cliff edges.

Campsites are located at the Plateau and also at the King Edward River (Munurru). Fees apply at both areas (visitors must buy an Uunguu Visitor Pass online from wunambalgaambera.org.au before arrival) and both have basic toilet facilities. One private safari style tented camp is also available near the Mitchell Plateau airstrip.

4WD ground tours and aerial scenic flights (helicopter) are also available.

Scenic fixed wing flights can be arranged by the **Kununurra Visitor Centre** staff who can also advise of tour schedules and bookings if required.

Wolfe Creek Crater. *Tourism Western Australia*

Wolfe Creek Crater

On the edge of the Great Sandy Desert and the extensive spinifex grasslands of the East Kimberley lies the Wolfe Creek meteorite crater, the second largest crater in the world from which fragments of a meteorite have been collected. The crater is 880 metres across and almost circular. Today, the floor is about 60 metres below the rim, and is generally flat, but rises slightly in the centre. The porous gypsum found in this central area supports reasonably large trees and contains a number of sinkholes that may reflect the position of stress fractures formed by the impact from the meteorite.

Although it has long been known to Aboriginal people, who called it Kandimalal, the Wolfe Creek meteorite crater was only discovered by Europeans in 1947, during an aerial survey. The Aboriginal Dreaming tells of two rainbow snakes who formed the nearby Sturt and Wolfe Creeks as they crossed the desert.

Access

Wolfe Creek Meteorite Crater National Park is situated approximately 152km by road south of Halls Creek along the Tanami Road. When travelling to Wolfe Creek be prepared for unsealed roads, it is always recommended to travel in a 4WD vehicle due to the corrugations. Contact the **Halls Creek Visitor Centre** for up to date road conditions before travelling.

Facilities

There is a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions campsite with basic toilets, however you need to be totally self sufficient for all your supplies. Please note there is no water available.

WYNDHAM TOWN MAP

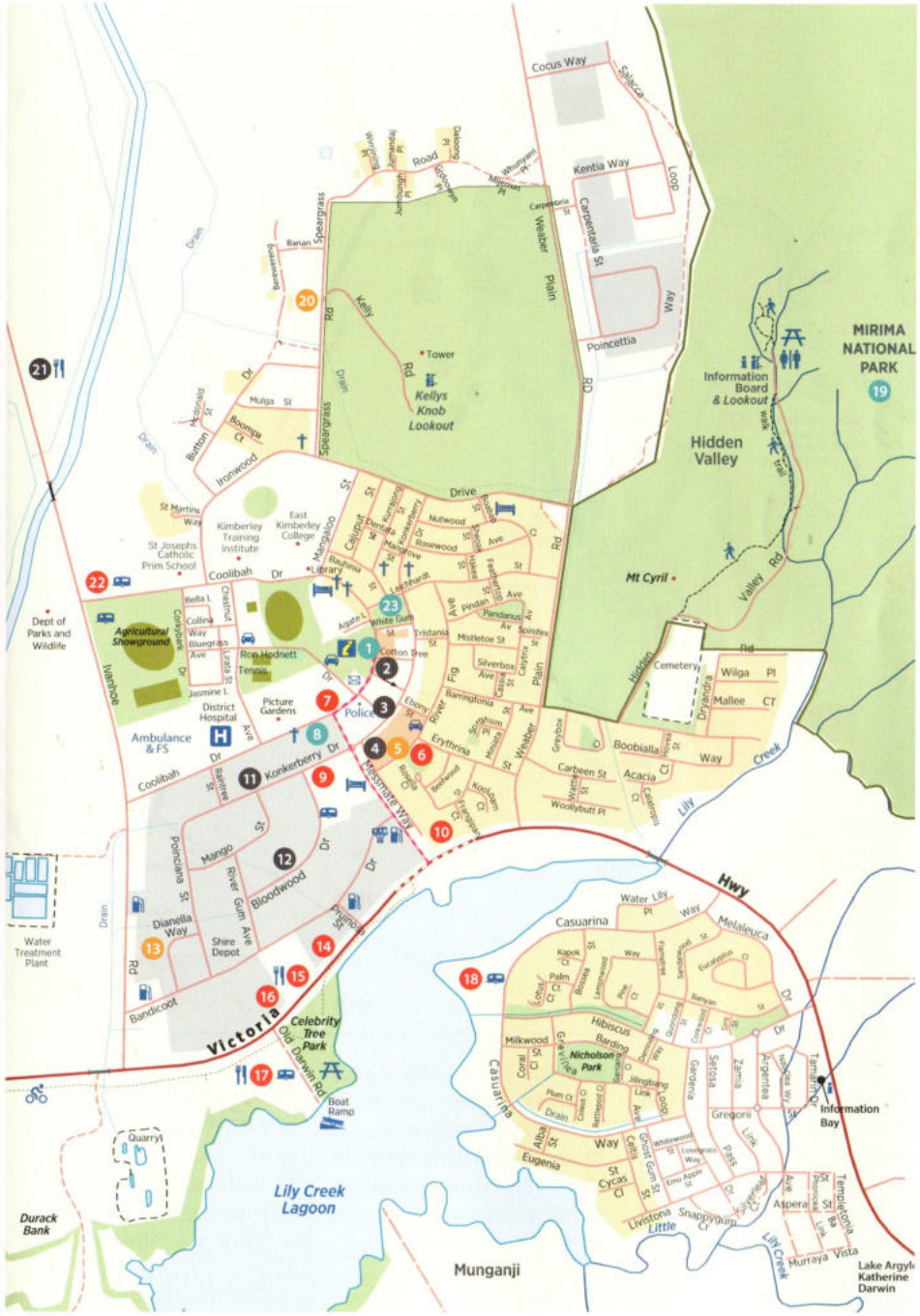
KUNUNURRA TOWN MAP

1. Kununurra Visitor Centre
2. Bushcamp Surplus Store
3. Kimberley Fine Diamonds
4. Walkabout Souvenirs
5. Kingfisher Tours
6. Kimberley Croc Motel
7. Kununurra Country Club Resort
8. Historical Society / Kununurra Museum
9. Town Caravan Park
10. The Cambridge
11. Revive
12. East Kimberley Hardware
13. Kimberley 4x4 Tours
14. Lakeview Apartments
15. The Kimberley Grande Resort
16. Freshwater Apartments
17. Kimberleyland Holiday Park
18. Lilly Lagoon Resort
19. Mirima National Park
20. Waringarri Aboriginal Arts
21. Ivanhoe Cafe
22. Ivanhoe Village Caravan Resort
23. Kununurra Seasonal Markets
24. Shoal Air
25. Kimberley Air Tours
26. Aviair
27. Helispirit
28. Kununurra Speedway
29. Lake Kununurra Boat Hire
30. Swim Beach
31. Swim Beach Dog Park
32. Triple J Tours
33. Kununurra Cruises
34. Kununurra Golf Club
35. The Pumphouse
36. Discovery Holiday Parks

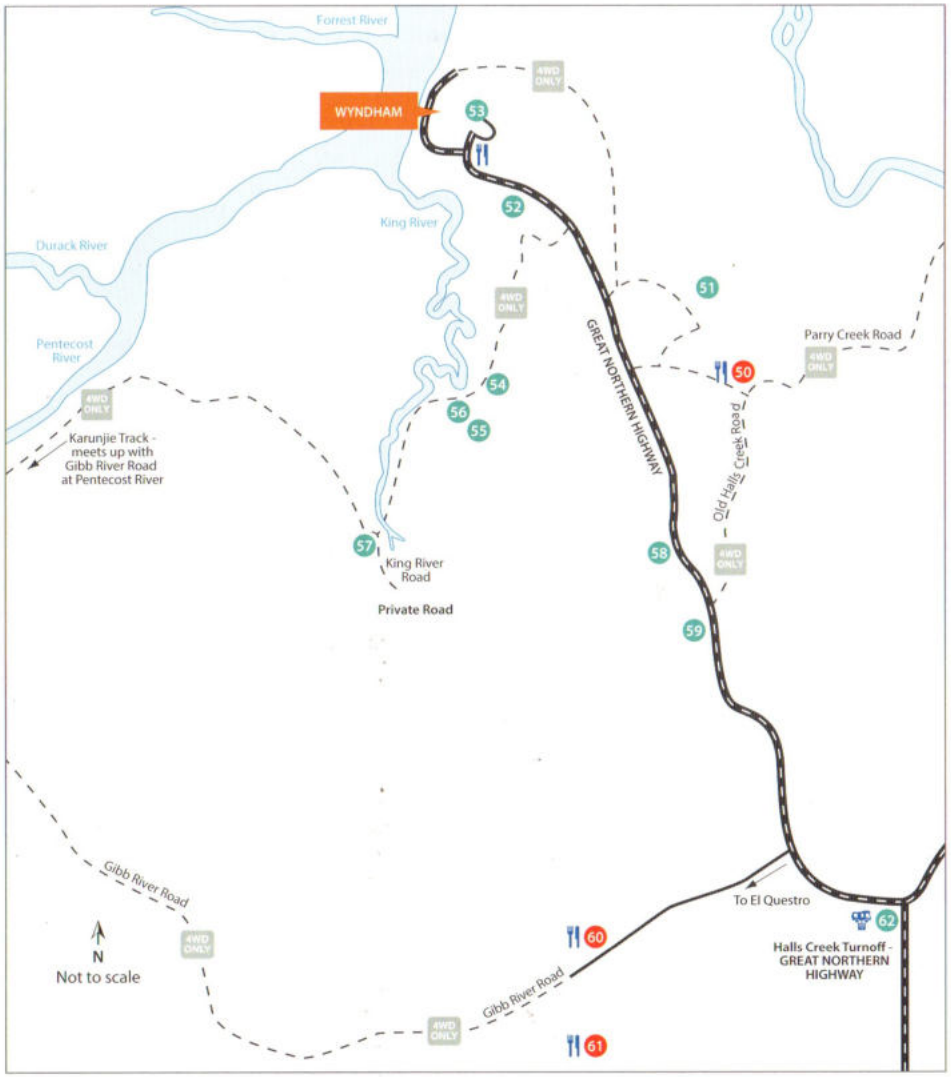
- Accommodation
- Tours and Activities
- Local Attraction
- Business
- Barbecues
- Boat Ramp
- Car Park
- Cycle Path
- Fuel
- Hospital
- Industrial Area
- Information Bay
- Lookout
- Park/Reserve Recreation
- Picnic Area
- Place of Worship
- Post Office
- Public Toilets
- Residential Area
- Visitor Centre
- Walk Trail

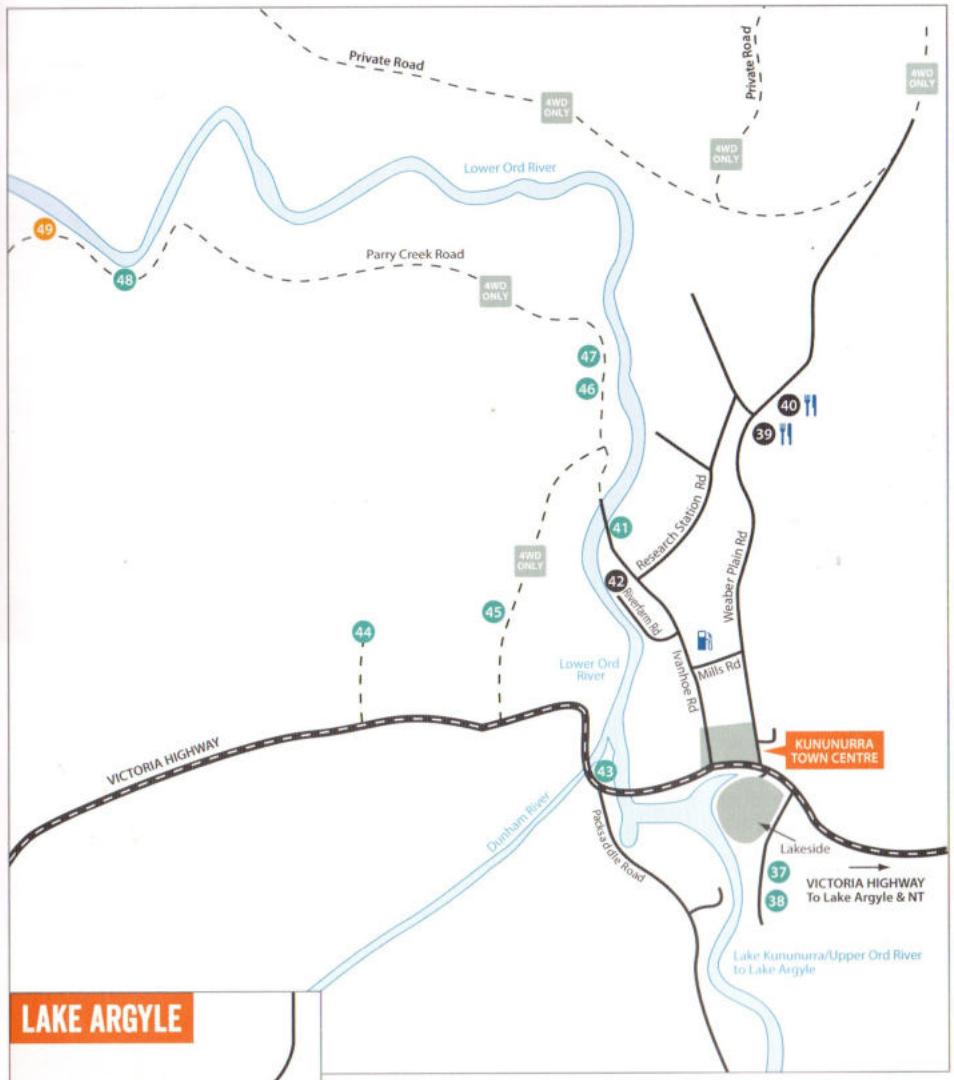
Accommodation

- Caravan Parks
- Motels, Hotels etc.



EAST KIMBERLEY MAP





37 Rodeo Grounds
38 Kununurra Racecourse
39 The Sandalwood Shop
40 Hoochery Distillery
41 Ivanhoe Crossing & Motocross Club
42 Kimberley Ornamental Stone Craft
43 Diversion Dam, Info Bay & Lions Park
44 Molly Spring
45 Valentine Spring
46 Middle Spring
47 Black Rock Falls
48 Ultimate Adventures
49 Mambi Island Boat Ramp
50 Parry Creek Farm Tourist Park
51 Marlgu Billabong
52 Wyndham Racecourse
53 Five Rivers Lookout (The Bastion)
54 Spillway
55 Moochalabra Dam
56 Aboriginal Cave Paintings
57 Prison Boab Tree
58 Rest Area – Maggie Creek
59 The Grotto
60 El Questro – Emma Gorge
61 El Questro – Wilderness Park
62 Rest Area – Halls Creek turnoff

Lake Argyle
63 Argyle Homestead Museum
64 Lake Argyle Resort
65 Lake Argyle Tours & Boat Cruises
66 Lake Argyle Cruises
67 Lake Argyle Adventures

Additional Tour Operators and Attractions outside the map area
Kimberley Coastal Camp
Bungle Bungle Savannah Lodge
Bungle Bungle Guided Tours
2K Tours
Berkeley River Lodge
HOT Tours
Slient Tours

ARGYLE HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

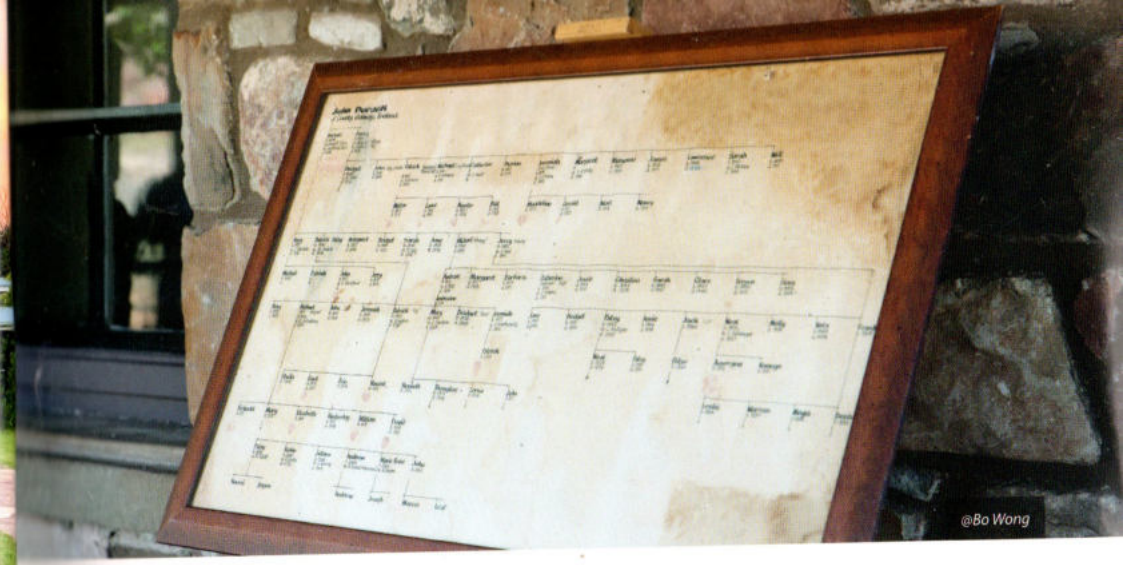
Argyle Downs Station was established in 1886 when Patrick (Patsy) Durack sent his eldest sons Michael Patrick (MP) and John Wallace (JW) from Queensland to set up the station.

Patsy Durack arrived in 1887 to help his sons and his wife Mary arrived in 1889 after a financial disaster left his Queensland interests in ruin. Mary died at Argyle from malaria on 24th January 1893.

Grieving over the loss of his wife, Patsy built a new homestead from handcrafted limestone blocks with crushed termite mounds as mortar and wide verandas paved with flat riverbed stones. This was a magnificent building for its time. Patsy Durack died on 24th January 1898, exactly 5 years to the day after his beloved wife.

In 1969 it was suggested that the fine, old, historically significant homestead should be preserved for posterity before the waters backing up behind the Ord Dam to form Lake Argyle inundated the property. Work began on dismantling the homestead for storage prior to reconstruction and it was estimated it would take two wet seasons from the completion of the dam to submerge the vacant homestead.

Unexpected heavy rain caught everyone by surprise and by January 1972 much of the valley was submerged. While much of value at the original site had to be abandoned to the waters, the Homestead building as well as gravestones and plaques were rescued.



The stones taken from the old homestead were numbered for reassembly in its original position and remained in storage in Kununurra awaiting funding. A grant for $98,330 was received from the Federal Government and $30,000 from the WA Government. Reconstruction work began 16kms from the original site on a hilltop above the shores of Lake Argyle.

The museum homestead is estimated to be about 85% true to the original building with its wide verandas and doors on opposite sides allowing cool breezes to blow through from any direction, and a gun barrel hallway which funnels air through.

The Argyle Homestead Museum was officially opened on the 23rd of June 1979 and the key to the front door presented to Dame Mary Durack, granddaughter of Patsy and Mary.

Treasured items have been donated to the museum by Durack family members, and period furniture, articles, equipment and photographs have been gathered and assembled for display.

The Argyle Homestead Museum is managed by the Kununurra Visitor Centre with caretakers in residence from April to September. A small fee is payable upon entry during April to September to help maintain this legacy to Patrick Durack and his family.

The book 'The Duracks of Argyle' written by Dame Mary Durack's daughter Patsy Millett is available exclusively at the Argyle Homestead Museum and the Kununurra Visitor Centre.

SHARE YOUR KIMBERLEY ADVENTURE WITH US!

#visitkununurra

Danny Carter A Higher Perspective

75 Coolibah Drive, Kununurra
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